



Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann  
Local Government Ireland



# Culture & Creativity Strategy

**2023–2027**



**Dublin City**

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## Forewords

### Foreword from Lord Mayor

Dublin City is a vibrant, cosmopolitan mixture of people, cultures and traditions. The city is steeped in history but looking to the future. Dublin's unique and varied culture draws in local, national and international audiences to experience poetry, literature, music, dance, theatre, heritage and visual arts. The city has inspired generations of artists, writers and performers and our city streets are immortalised in literature and music known worldwide. I welcome the Dublin City Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023– 2027, Dublin City's response to the national Clár Éire Ildánach / Creative Ireland programme 2023-2027. The Creative Ireland programme, now into its sixth year, is an all-of-government initiative that places creativity at the centre of public policy. Local authorities are delivering the programme locally and engaging citizens.

Dublin will be focusing throughout the life of this programme on the Irish Language, creative

collaborations between City Council Departments and supporting underestimated communities through social inclusion and encouraging creative diversity.

Creativity is central to all our lives and supports all arts and cultural initiatives, innovation and resilience. The emphasis on creativity as part of wellness is particularly welcome and Creative Ireland's support for young people and climate action (to name but two of their programmes) has created real partnership and creative opportunity for Dubliners and visitors.

Sitting alongside our many Arts, Heritage, Library and Innovation initiatives I welcome and applaud this special programme.

**Cllr. Caroline Conroy**  
Lord Mayor



### Foreword from Chief Executive

I am pleased to introduce the Dublin City Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027. This strategy represents a focus towards collaborative projects across agencies in Dublin City, affirming the values and objectives embodied in Dublin City Council's existing Dublin City Development Plan, Cultural Strategy, Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), Arts Plan and Arts, Education and Learning Policy. Dublin City Council supports cultural participation and practice through partnerships and collaboration, through significant direct and indirect support and through provision of cultural infrastructure across the city and its neighbourhoods. Dublin City Council is committed to developing the city as a place where those from all nationalities and ethnic backgrounds have a sense of belonging and pride, and the opportunity to contribute to every aspect of city life.

The Dublin City Culture and Creativity Team led by City Librarian, Mairead Owens and supported by the City Arts Office draws on experience from across Dublin City Council Departments, working together to nurture creativity and boost participation in the cultural life of the community. Consultations during 2022 have underlined the importance of creating and supporting opportunities for all citizens to engage in inclusive and diverse cultural and creative experiences.

Dublin City is the administrative and political capital of Ireland housing many of Ireland's national cultural institutions such as the National Library, Archives, galleries and museums, offering ideas and inspiration, and connecting cultural and public communities.

Dublin City provides spaces for citizens to experience and create literature, music, dance and much more. Dublin, the 4th UNESCO City of Literature, is an active partner in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network with a defined role and relationships within the now 28 UNESCO Cities of Literature group. This collaborative engagement draws on the city's distinguished literary heritage and on its contemporary cultural ecosystem. Creative writing is nurtured locally through schemes such as the Dublin City Writers-in-Residence and internationally through the International Dublin Literary Award.

The Dublin City Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023 – 2027 sets out seven strategic priorities which invite people to enjoy and explore, to experience and to excel. Dublin City Council's capacity for cultural and creative programme delivery and citizen engagement is demonstrated through ongoing programming such as Children's Art in Libraries, drawing courses at Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin UNESCO City of Literature One City One Book Festival, Opera in the Open, Dublin City Historians-in-Residence and Dublin's Culture Connects, among many others. Engagement with cultural activity is beneficial to individuals and communities, and collaborations will develop over the life of the strategy, which will maximise opportunities for citizens to participate in their city.

**Owen P. Keegan**  
Chief Executive

Black and white photograph –  
My Dublin 1963: My Dubliners  
2020, Dublin, Alen McWeeney

# 1 Creative Ireland 2023–2027

The Creative Ireland Programme is an all-of-government initiative committed to enhancing access to, engagement with, and enjoyment of Ireland’s culture and creativity. Within the broad range of available definitions, creativity is considered as *a set of innate abilities and learned skills; the capacity of individuals and organisations to transcend accepted ideas and norms and by drawing on imagination to create new ideas that bring additional value to human activity.*

The vision of the Creative Ireland Programme 2023–2027 is to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation so that individually and collectively, in our personal lives and in our institutions, we can realise our full creative potential thereby promoting individual, community and national wellbeing.

The Creative Ireland Programme will deliver through collaboration and partnership promoting understanding and appreciation of the value of creativity in all its forms — whether through the arts, culture, heritage, or technology.

## The Creative Ireland Programme will prioritise its work around five aspects for the period 2023–2027:

1. Creative Youth
2. Creative Communities
3. Creative Industries
4. Creative Health and Wellbeing
5. Creative Climate Action and Sustainability

Through the Creative Ireland Programme, *Creative Communities* supports the partnership between the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Ireland’s local authorities. This partnership enables citizens and communities to explore their culture and creativity at local level and, where appropriate, leverage that creativity to strengthen wellbeing, advance social cohesion and support economic development.

*Creative Communities* is also innovative in deploying creativity to achieve greater integration across targeted policy priorities. This has delivered new creative engagement initiatives in relation to for example children and young people, older persons, climate action, and local economies. Individuals’ and communities’ perception about the role and value of culture and creativity as central to our wellbeing in its broadest sense is being enhanced.

The opportunity embraced within the Dublin City Council Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023–2027 is to support people’s participation, inclusion and expression within communities, and further strengthen local creative economies.



Drawing *en plein air* at the Hugh Lane Gallery’s Art and the Outdoors on Parnell Square, Dublin. **Photograph:** Jessica O’Donnell, Hugh Lane Gallery.

## 2 Culture and Creativity in Dublin

Since its foundation, Dublin has been an engine of culture and creativity – a city of art and ideas, innovation and rich tradition. In a visit to Dublin one can experience the many expressions of this heritage – from its medieval churches and Georgian squares to its thriving contemporary literature scene; from its digital pioneers to its energetic community arts groups; from its grand galleries to its diverse musical culture that reflects today’s global Dublin.

In Dublin City today, engagement in, and with, cultural activity cuts across age, social background and country of origin. Dublin City Council is committed to supporting the dynamic creative energy that already exists in the city. And beyond that, it is committed to nurturing participation and supporting creativity in every part of the city through its programmes, support frameworks, infrastructure, partnerships, and policies. Creating opportunities for children to engage in culture and creativity from the earliest age is vital not just for the child’s well-being and development, but also as part of ensuring the sustainability of the city’s cultural wellbeing into the future. Dublin’s children and young people engage in a wide range of creative pursuits through classes, clubs and in family settings – from music and dance to coding. Council-supported programmes increase access to cultural activities for those who may be marginalised.

Dublin is unique in having a dedicated Culture Company. The Dublin City Council Culture Company collaborates with people, communities, cultural organisations, businesses and Dublin City Council to increase cultural participation and embed cultural experiences into the lives of all who call Dublin home. It connects people and communities through culture and conversation, driving health and wellbeing, social relationships, belonging, community cohesion and pride of place.

The Culture Company delivers a wide range of programmes including:

### **The National Neighbourhood:**

a year-round programme that creates ways for people to see and create culture in their place with people they know. These new experiences, explorations, and connections are the foundation for people to build creativity into their everyday lives.

### **Culture Club:**

a series of hosted talks and tours that introduce and encourage people to connect with the cultural spaces of the city. The Company works through its partners to open new ways for people to access cultural activity more easily and confidently in order to develop and expand their cultural habits.

### **Tea & Chats:**

a programme of year-round informal chats with groups of people about their thoughts and ideas on the city and culture. What does your city and your community mean to you? How might culture connect us all?

### **ACCESS Culture For All Network:**

The Culture Company represents Dublin in a network of eight European capital cities - Amsterdam, Dublin, Lisbon, London, Sofia, Riga, Tallinn, and Vilnius. These cities are working together to share ideas, experiences and to create new policies for cultural inclusion. Its aim is to bring about a real shift in cultural policy making in Europe, and as a result ensure access to culture for all citizens. The network believes that culture plays an important role in finding solutions to the complex issues facing cities today. Over two years, the network will work together to develop solutions to common urban challenges.

### **Culture Connects:**

a year-round programme that invites people in Dublin to try out new things and offers ways for people to make and create together, to share ideas and connect through culture and conversation.

### **The EU Lab:**

finds and matches partners with common interests to source European funding for ambitious new ideas. Through EU Lab, the Company has compiled complex applications, provided training about EU systems, and connected cultural sections within Dublin City Council with European partners, to secure funding, grow ideas and make projects happen.

As part of our Creative Ireland work over the last five years we collaborated on the following:

**Creative Climate Action Crumlin** is built on a collaboration between the communities of Crumlin and two artists: Aoife Raleigh, a multi-disciplinary award-winning circus artist, producer and facilitator, and Niamh Shaw, a writer, performer, engineer and scientist who was recently voted one of Ireland’s leading science communicators and STEAM specialists. Amongst the local groups who are involved alongside Crumlin Community Clean Up are Positive Action Crumlin, and St Agnes’ Community Centre for Music and the Arts, which will create connection with the residents of Crumlin, encompassing the area between St Mary’s Road, St Agnes Road, Kimmage Road West, Lower Kimmage, Clogher Road and Parnell Road. Beyond Crumlin, the project will work to create a scalable model for local level change and action to fight climate change by developing creative and innovative paths towards environmental change.

**My Dublin My Dubliners.** Alen MacWeeney is an internationally acclaimed art documentary photographer born in Dublin in 1939 but living in New York. This project showed previously unseen work that MacWeeney created in Dublin in 1963. The works were displayed on Digi panels and bus shelter poster sites in Dublin city centre. The design of the posters included as captions

selected responses to the particular images that were posted by Dubliners in 2020. The project was therefore about life in a Dublin of the past being brought back into the present in 2020 by today’s Dubliners. It celebrates the power of photography to create conversations that unite the community, and that transport the viewer back to another life and time.

The project continued with a specially commissioned large scale outdoor projection of selected images from this body of work, on Meeting House Square in Temple Bar. A further selection of images was also displayed in the Gallery of Photography. The project concluded with an in-person interview event and book launch with the photographer.

**Art and the Outdoors** was a two-day event that attracted the highest visitor numbers to the Hugh Lane Gallery since it re-opened to the public in 2021. Over 2,000 people of all ages participated over the course of the two days and the event required a special street closure. It was the first significant in-person event since the Gallery’s original closure in March 2020.

### **Diversity and Photography Commission.**

Five photographers were selected from an open competition to respond creatively to the theme of ‘diversity’ in Dublin City. The winning photographers were Mandy O’Neill, Ala Buisir, Jialin Long, Tessy Ehiguese and Tobi Isaac-Irein.

### **WRaPParound project – Poetry Ireland**

is a spoken word and performance-poetry based Writer in Residence Programme running for the past 8 years through a collaboration between Poetry Ireland Writers in Residence and the Junior Cycle Schools Programme Libraries Project.

**Eat the Streets** Festival took place at the National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History, Collins Barracks, as part of Dublin Climate Action Week 2022. There were free workshops for children and the young at heart where people learned how to pickle vegetables, to chop like a chef and earn a knife licence, or how to turn food scraps into

compost. Chefs were ready to cook and share their tips on climate action in the kitchen!

**First Fortnight** programmes work for diverse audiences across Dublin, starting conversations in multiple communities around the stigma attached to mental health and breaking down barriers through the arts and cultural action. Events to date have included:

- Ann Ingle at axis:Ballymun sharing with her readers the challenges around her husband's years of mental illness and tragic death at forty-one. Ann's live talk was also recorded as a podcast for future distribution.
- 'Cloud Study' by Irish Modern Dance is part dance, part dream, part theatre, part athletics. Two compelling dancers - Mufutau Yusuf, an Irishman, born in Nigeria and Salma Ataya, a Palestinian contemporary dancer who has also danced Dabka - attempt to run 1,000 kilometres in circles and lines through the space, chasing dreams, memories, and home.
- Exchange House Ireland National Travellers Service is an organisation of Traveller and non-Travellers and leading provider of front line and support services to some of the most marginalised Travellers in Ireland since 1980. They are producing a series of films devised by participants through a series of workshops.
- The Two Norries first live podcast in Dublin. James and Jim have developed the podcast to inspire people to change and to educate those who have an interest in topics related to drug use, addiction, recovery, desistance, trauma, mental health and social class.
- My Story My Song was an intimate evening of storytelling and song from 10 talented performers curated by Mark Whelan. Each artist shared music that has helped them through a challenging time in their lives before performing a song that holds special importance for them. The event was live streamed for a wider audience engagement.

**Finglas Mural Projects** was designed and completed in conjunction with Mellows Spring Childcare Development Centre (AfterSchool Club). The theme was diversity within the centre and the broader community. The mural is in a public space within the Finglas Civic and Leisure Centre's footprint.

Dublin City Council continues to deliver a rich cultural programme of festivals and events, community participation, and artist supports.

**The Dublin City Public Libraries** continue to be hubs of creativity for children. Aside from the creative inspiration offered by the library collections, they are gathering points for workshops, projects, and creative learning opportunities, as well as ongoing reading initiatives including Right to Read, the Reader-in-Residence and Summer Stars reading programmes.

**Dublin City Gallery - The Hugh Lane Gallery** continues to offer opportunities for children and families to explore visual art.

**The UNESCO City of Literature Office** continues to run the successful Reader-in-Residence Programme. This project sees specially appointed readers running programmes that introduce children to new books and encourage a love of reading. The programme is delivered both in primary schools and in non-educational settings like youth clubs.

**The Early Years Arts Residency and Training** programme continues to build capacity among artists and educators to deliver creative programmes to children.

**The Digital Skills Project.** Dublin is now a global centre for digital creativity and innovation – from university start-ups to tech giants like Google. To deal with the threat of a 'Digital Divide' as often families in communities suffering disadvantage can't access devices, equipment or training that would allow them to explore the creative potential offered by the digital world. Dublin City Council

continues to facilitate access to digital skills, which can be used both for creative expression and empowerment.

**The Tenement Museum** continues to grow in popularity connecting with communities in Ballymun, Finglas and Cabra. Many of the families in this part of northwest Dublin moved there from the tenements of the inner city. Historian Donal Fallon has worked with community members to collect stories, memories and information about the experience of those who lived in the tenements. Importantly, it is also collecting valuable new information about the experience of Dubliners who moved into the newly built suburbs, built in northwest Dublin between the 1930s and 1960s. The process can be seen as 'crowd sourcing' history. The project highlights the importance of actively seeking out these memories and folklore, as the historians have noticed that many working class people from these areas don't consider their stories '*part of history*'.

**Ongoing investment in Dublin's cultural infrastructure** is vital to ensure the continuing dynamism of the city's creative life and culture. Dublin City Public Libraries network is a key component in this investment programme including new branches and refurbishments. Besides the intrinsic cultural value of their collections, libraries are hubs for a range of creative activities, and a focal point in neighbourhoods for citizens who want to engage culturally. Dublin City Council also recognises the importance of infrastructure that supports the work of professional artists in the city. Their work makes a vital contribution to Dublin's cultural landscape. In their work, they reflect and amplify the hopes, concerns and passions of the city. Meanwhile, in most of the city's public and community art projects, professional artists are the ones who encourage, guide and facilitate the creativity of citizens. Dublin City Council supports artists by funding professional facilities like the Lab Gallery and Rehearsal Spaces. This facility offers artists a space for experimentation, exploration and development of practice.

**Film, Animation and TV production.** Over the last twenty years Dublin has become a significant international production centre, supporting creative industry jobs, and showcasing Dublin as a tourism destination. As part of its role in supporting the industry, Dublin City Council handles permits for over 4,000 on-street locations. These include parks, bridges and beaches.

**UNESCO City of Literature.** Dublin is the fourth city in the world to earn this title. Building on our literary heritage and vibrant contemporary scene, Dublin City is part of a worldwide Creative Cities network. But the city's reputation also comes from the street, and the undeniable love of storytelling, banter and verbal gymnastics that is central to Dublin culture.

**City of Festivals and Events** hosts more than 100 festivals and events organised or supported by the City Council each year. These help to attract millions of visitors and build the cultural profile of the city internationally. For example, the Bram Stoker Festival combines a focus on Dublin's literary heritage with cutting edge contemporary arts events – culminating in a huge street parade which in recent years has been staged by internationally-renowned street arts company Macnas. Meanwhile, The International Dublin Literary Award is an annual event with a truly global reach. Over 400 library systems in 177 countries worldwide are invited to nominate books each year for the award, and the event gains international media attention annually – just another example of how Dublin's innovative and participatory approach to culture and creativity makes an impact at home and abroad.

### 3

## The Creative Ireland Vision for Dublin

Culture is at the heart of Dublin's identity and quality of life. Culture gives the city its vibrancy and makes it an appealing destination for local, national and international audiences to experience literature, music, dance, theatre, heritage and visual arts.

Our vision echoes Dublin City Council's existing policies and priorities – to increase cultural participation and practice through partnership, building a welcoming, inclusive and vibrant city for all. Dublin City Council will support engagement of communities through infrastructure and programming, supporting designers and makers, performers and speakers, writers and artists, the curious and the creative.

We know that our cultural wealth is built on the creative collaborations that are the beating heart of our creative city. Participation and access are central to this vision, and so connecting artists and other creators to communities is an essential part of our work. Therefore, we will facilitate, encourage and support creative partnerships across and beyond Dublin City Council to realise our vision.

The Dublin City Culture and Creativity Team play a key role in the development and delivery of this strategy, working with local communities and creatives to foster innovation and creativity, while continually informed by the ongoing community consultations carried out through The Culture Company. The team will ensure a coherent approach to cultural support, development, and programming which reflects the objectives of relevant existing plans and strategies for Dublin City and the Creative Ireland vision.

Our vision for the next five years will be informed by three strategic themes:

**The Irish Language.** We are witnessing a creative renaissance through the Irish Language. Literature and filmmaking in Irish are flowering, and there is a rising demand to participate and practice creativity through Irish. Poor comprehension or facilities is no longer perceived as a barrier to its expression or enjoyment.

Dublin City Council will emphasise the Irish Language in our Culture and Creativity Strategy. We will work closely with Dublin City Council's Irish Language Subcommittee, Fochoiste na Gaeilge, and deepen our partnership with BAC le Gaeilge to develop modern and attractive Irish Language projects and programmes.

**Unheard Voices.** Diversity and inclusion are primary values in a modern capital city and we will achieve the innovation and creative outcomes of our strategy through inclusion. These values will not be an afterthought or aspiration. Therefore, our strategy will work with underestimated communities and position an annual Open Call process within those communities to attract creative projects and build confidence in Local Authority support for unheard voices.

Dublin City Council acknowledge that creativity is central to well-being. In communities that face challenges, particularly in relation to young people, creativity and innovation can offer the possibility of new perspectives and horizons. Creative Ireland's emphasis on creativity as an inclusive, universal, human trait welcomes many disparate viewpoints and rich discussion. It is well documented that Creative Ireland's funding leverages other sources of funding that will support our work with unheard voices.



**Collaboration.** Our ability to build partnership and to work collaboratively between city sections from Archaeology to Economic Development has been a hallmark of Dublin City Council's approach with Creative Ireland and all our partners. This collaboration will remain a central theme in all our work, but with a renewed focus on the local and the sustainable, and with fewer larger scale initiatives.

Our collaborative approach mirrors the all-of-Government approach by Creative Ireland and was given concrete expression in Creative Climate Action Crumlin that was joint funded by Dublin City Council and Creative Ireland. This is a rich example of multiple local Authority Departments and agencies dealing with climate action working closely with artists from inception to delivery, in partnership with community organisations and local creatives.

Toby Balogan, dancer, Hip Hop workshop, Cruinniú na nOg. Photographer unknown.

## 4 How The Creative Ireland Programme Works

### Principles and Values of Creative Communities

Creative Communities will continue to support local authorities as a wellbeing strategy through:

- **Policy** — Working in partnership across government supporting local authorities to deliver relevant local, regional, and national policies and priorities;
- **Practice** — Flexible, cross-cutting Culture and Creativity Teams providing an agile and adaptable approach central to the delivery of *Creative Communities* as it addresses locally-relevant priorities;
- **Participation** — Providing more opportunities for people to engage with and enjoy culture and creativity at local level in ways that underpin equality of access; and
- **Partnership** — Between central and local government, and Dublin County Council and our local culture and creative sectors.

This approach is based on addressing a shared, strategic agenda while delivering on the challenges and opportunities unique to each local authority area.

- i. The *Creative Communities* partnership will be delivered in line with the following principles and values:
  - ii. Broaden access to, and participation in, cultural and creative activities locally.
  - iii. Use culture and creativity as a catalyst for collaboration and innovation in achieving greater wellbeing, social cohesion, and economic development.
  - iv. Strengthen the capacity of local authorities to integrate culture and creativity across place-making, regeneration, renewal, and the development of more vibrant, creative, and sustainable places.
  - v. Investing in culture and creativity to support environmental, social, and economic returns that help deliver local authority agendas — from local and regional, to national and international.
  - vi. Build on the agility and integrated approach of Culture and Creativity Teams to sustain further delivery of targeted collaborative programmes.



Habon (3) at the Hugh Lane Gallery's Art and the Outdoors on Parnell Square, Dublin.  
**Photograph:** Dara MacDonaill /The Irish Times



Eat the Streets, Liberty Hall



## 5 The Strategic Priorities for Dublin

Our strategic priorities for our Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023 -2027 remain unchanged. They are:

1. We will work collaboratively to maximise opportunities for everyone to participate in the city's creative and cultural life
2. We will invite children to explore, enjoy, create and play in their city
3. We will work to enhance local cultural and creative infrastructure to offer active use of public space in Dublin City
4. We will honour our past and focus on our future
5. We will develop internal and external partnerships to increase cultural participation
6. We will support artists and other creators
7. We will position culture, creativity and creative industries as central to Dublin's global competitiveness and reputation

The actions that emerge from these priorities will be shaped through our three strategic themes

1. The Irish Language
2. Unheard Voices
3. Collaboration

In other words, we will ask of every project developed under of each of these priorities, how can this contribute to Irish Language development? How can this amplify unheard voices? How and with who can we collaborate to drive impact and sustainability?

### Strategic Priority 1: We will work collaboratively to maximise opportunities for everyone to participate in the City's creative and cultural life

Dublin City Council will continue to support cultural participation and practice through partnerships and collaboration, through significant direct and indirect support and through provision of cultural infrastructure across the city and its neighbourhoods. Dublin City Council works to ensure inclusive access for all, with no physical or financial barriers to participation.

*"Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits".*The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 27 (1)

We will collaborate to develop and deliver community access to cultural experiences through Dublin City Council programmes such as Readers-in-Residence, Historians-in-Residence, Dublin UNESCO City of Literature Writers-in-Residence and Dublin's Culture Connects, working with partners, schools, neighbourhoods and community groups.

Dublin City Council will promote the Irish language and access to cultural experiences for all through the provision of diverse cultural artistic programming.

### Strategic Priority 2: We will invite children to enjoy and explore, create and play in their city.

We will focus on prioritising play as children's culture, reimagining places of culture as child-friendly places with playful art installations and street design to animate the city and facilitate playful interactions.

### Strategic Priority 3: We will work to enhance local cultural and creative infrastructure to offer active use of public space in Dublin City.

Dublin City Council provides a wide and diverse range of services to the citizens of Dublin City, to businesses and to visitors to the city. We will focus on creating a positive energy in the city, through the development of green spaces, play spaces and seating areas throughout the city. We will continue to make our public event spaces available for cultural and creative uses.

Dublin City Council prioritises provision for cultural facilities throughout the city and increasing awareness of our cultural heritage and promoting safe and active streets through the design of buildings and the public realm, so that all residents and visitors, regardless of social or cultural background, feel a sense of ownership and engagement with the city, feel safe in their communities and are welcome to fully participate in the community, social, cultural, business and political life of the city.

### Strategic Priority 4: We will honour our past and focus on our future.

Throughout the decade of Centenaries Dublin City Council focused on significant events in Irish history with a particular relevance to Dublin City, welcoming different historical perspectives.

Commemorations included Votes for Women (1918), the War of Independence and the Armistice. Dublin City's six Historians-in-Residence are working with the public, libraries, community

groups and schools across the five administrative areas of Dublin City making history enjoyable and accessible for all.

### Strategic Priority 5: We will develop internal and external partnerships to increase cultural participation.

We will communicate and interact with key audiences through a continuing process during the life of the Strategy, encouraging creative engagement and collaboration in the city. Partners include Bealtaine, Conradh na Gaeilge, St. Patrick's Festival, National Cultural Institutions, Dublin UNESCO City of Literature, the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, our sister cities and the International Dublin Literary Award.

The Culture and Creativity Dublin City Team will continue to engage with the broader Dublin City Council team to develop new ideas and projects, to deepen collaboration within the local authority, and to seek new ways to work together to plan and develop improved partnerships and infrastructure to increase citizen engagement with culture and creativity in the city.

### Strategic Priority 6: We will support artists and other creators.

The Culture and Creativity Dublin City Team will work together to nurture creativity and boost participation in the cultural life of the community. We look to develop enabling environments to support artists and other creators.

We will continue to look to best practice in the sphere of arts, education and learning in the Dublin City area and support work led by pioneering artists, arts educators and arts organisations in sites for learning.

Dublin City Arts Office supports quality of artistic experience through professional development of artists, arts and cultural workers, educators and facilitators. The Arts Office's programme of work includes direct funding, The lab (Gallery and Rehearsal Spaces), programming of city-wide festivals, artistic programming with

children, young people and older people, Dublin City Public Art Programme, and professional development supports for artists.

**Strategic Priority 7:**

**We will position culture, creativity and creative industries as central to Dublin's global competitiveness and reputation.**

International conferences and events position Dublin globally as a gateway for Ireland and Europe. These events promote our city and the region, the tourism, hotel and hospitality sector in the city along with our cultural and creative industries. We will continue to support international conferences and collaborate with Fáilte Ireland and other partners to support and attract major events to our capital city. We will also continue to develop emerging festivals which seek to position Dublin as an attractive and vibrant global destination.

We will build mutually beneficial links with key cities globally, while also continuing to bid for, and host, leading international events and festivals.



Mural – Finglas Civic and Leisure Complex, designed in collaboration with Mellows Spring Childcare and Development Centre, 2021

## 6 Implementation by the Dublin Culture and Creativity Team

Dublin City Council has a Culture and Creativity Team in place to guide and oversee implementation of this Strategy.

The Culture and Creativity Teams are the cornerstone of Creative Communities across all 31 local authorities in Ireland. These teams bring together a significant range and level of expertise and, in many cases, include professionals from architecture, archives, the arts, climate action, community, enterprise and environmental development, heritage, information and communication technologies, Irish language, libraries, spatial planning, tourism and more. This depth of technical expertise affords each local authority a level of insight, resources, and delivery experience which few other public or private sector organisations can match.

The role of this team is to:

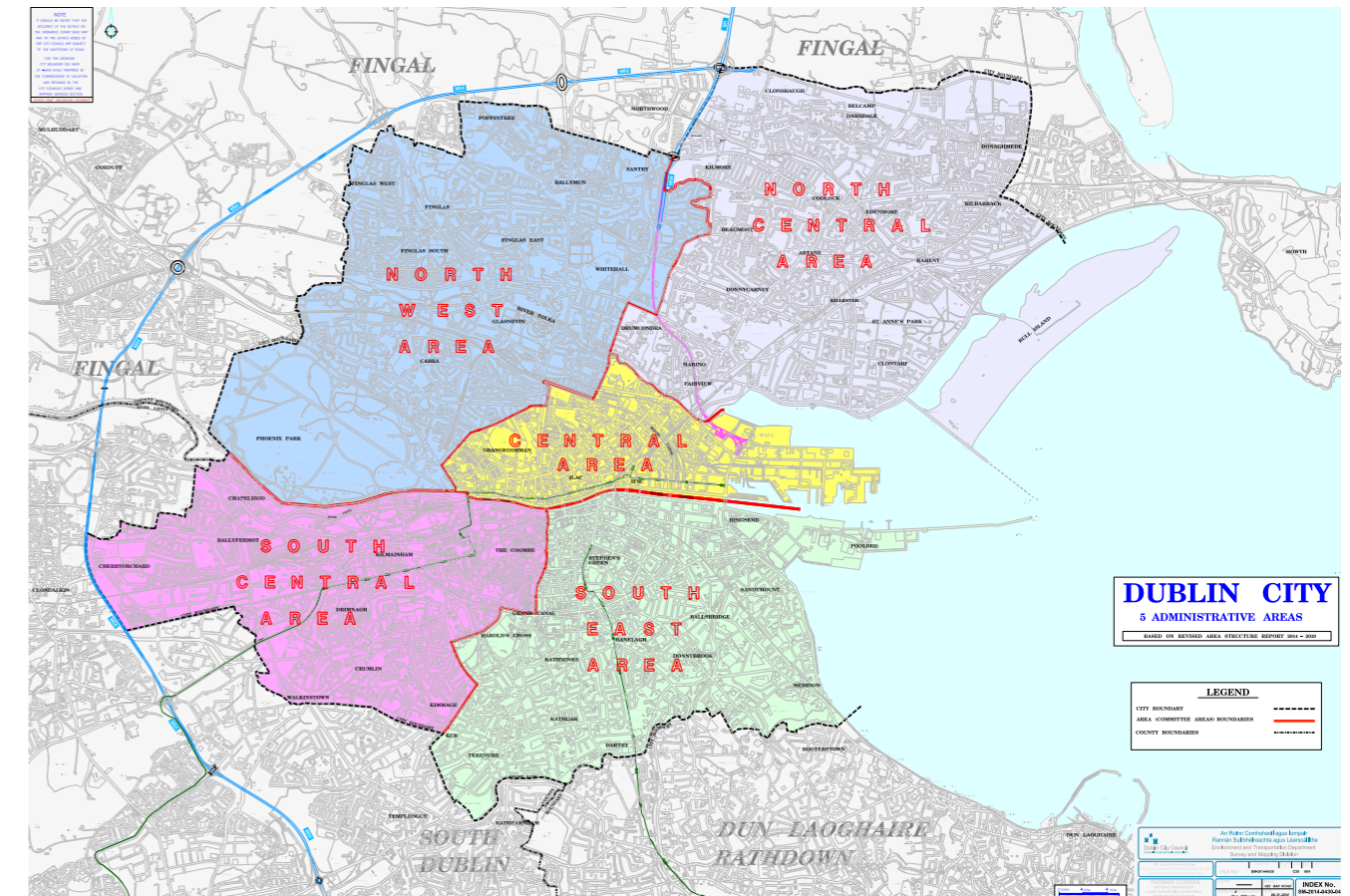
- Provide a collective forum for the ambition of culture and creativity within the local authority,
- Focus on diversity and inclusivity and enable harder to reach communities to participate in cultural and creative activities,
- Build on existing in-house expertise and strategies across areas of wellbeing, social cohesion and economic development to leverage culture and creativity to deliver on targeted local authority agendas,
- Enable a shift in how the cultural and creative sector is valued within and across local authorities and ensure that culture and creativity is embedded across local authority plans, policies and project teams,

- Drive cross-collaborative actions that support change and positive outcomes locally, and potentially between local authorities at regional level, and
- Be innovative and take risks – try new projects and new ways of working.

The delivery of the Strategy is led by the City Librarian and the members of the Culture and Creativity Team for Dublin City Council include the Deputy City Librarian, the City Arts Officer, the City Architects, the Heritage Officer and Conservation Architect, the Climate Change Coordinator, the City Archaeologist, the Director of the Director Hugh Lane Gallery, the Deputy Head of Economic Development, Community Development, the City Parks Superintendent, the Head of the Events Unit, the International Office, the Dublin City Council Culture Company and the Healthy Ireland Coordinator.


These structures and processes are a critical success factor that will enable Creative Communities to deliver on strategic priorities for Dublin City Council


## Map of Dublin County Council Area and Municipal Districts 2022




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A Government of Ireland Initiative.  
Tionscnamh de chuid Rialtas na hÉireann.

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 CreativeIrl

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[creativeireland.gov.ie](http://creativeireland.gov.ie)

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places and communities through creativity.*