



Dublin City Council

Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath

Culture Strategy 2010 - 2017

Vision

Culture is integral to Dublin City's identity and quality of life

Themes

Dublin City Council will:

1. Lead and support the development of culture and the arts for the city.
2. Support established and emerging artists.
3. Create opportunities for everyone to participate in the city's cultural life.
4. Lead the development of excellent cultural infrastructure.
5. Recognise that culture is essential to the city's economic vitality.
6. Ensure that culture plays a significant role in urban regeneration and reflects the identity of Dublin's neighbourhoods.

Theme 1: Dublin City Council will lead and support the development of culture for the city

Priority 1: We will devise appropriate plans for the further provision of arts and culture in the city. (i.e. Libraries, Arts and Heritage)

Priority 2: We will continue to develop partnerships with the city's cultural bodies, the education sector and complementary stakeholders.

Priority 3: We will support ambitious and visionary practice in public art across all art forms and all forms of expression

Priority 4: We will ensure that civic processes support innovation and cultural expression

Priority 5: We will foster awareness of the city's cultural life nationally and internationally

Priority 6: We will recognise and support the Irish language and tradition's distinctive position in the cultural life of the city

This means that we will:

- Devise appropriate plans for the Arts, the Libraries and Archive Development plan
- Review Dublin City Heritage Plan
- Maintain and strengthen links with National Cultural institutions and other partners
- Establish a cultural alliance with a range of partners in the city
- Create an online cultural network to provide information on resources and activities and exchange information on a regular basis
- Develop a Public Art programme that reflects Dublin as capital of Ireland and an international city as well as a city of communities and localities
- Work with all City Council departments and agencies on the integration of public art and capital projects
- Develop a Public Art Register and programme of maintenance of the City's collections
- Review and revise the permitting and approval processes for cultural events, festivals and temporary activities
- Ensure that festivals and events can take place in accessible traditional and non-traditional venues in our neighbourhoods
- Utilise the role of Lord Mayor and City Council leaders to promote Dublin's unique cultural identity at home and abroad
- Ensure vibrant and innovative cultural activity in the city through maintaining an awareness of diverse, alternative arts practice
- Initiate civic processes for acknowledging and celebrating cultural achievement within the city

Theme 2: Dublin City Council will support established and emerging artists

Priority 1: We will provide a range of supports for artists across all art forms

Priority 2: We will enable the use of the city's fabric for arts practice

Priority 3: We will promote and facilitate national and international collaboration.

This means that we will:

- Carry out 'Needs Analysis' of artists in the city and communicate our findings to support policy and planning decisions.
- Provide appropriate living and working environments for artists across all arts forms
- Maintain and develop the 'City Artist in Residence' scheme
- Utilise our funding mechanisms to ensure that we are responsive to the needs of both the established arts organisations and of emerging and innovative artists and organisations, working in non-traditional structures
- Support modern and contemporary art practice nationally and internationally
- Ensure that our Civic arts facilities have the technological resources and flexibility to accommodate traditional and emerging forms of presentation and exhibition
- Support opportunities for local, national and international collaboration
- Work with the arts sector, including the Arts Council, to identify and prioritise infrastructural needs, facilitating the production, performance and presentation of art

Theme 3: Create opportunities for everyone to participate in the city's cultural life

Priority 1: We will widen access to quality cultural experiences in the city.

Priority 2: We will facilitate the provision of cultural information through working with other stakeholders in the city

Priority 3: We will harness the role of arts and culture in strengthening neighbourhood and community identities

Priority 4: We will acknowledge, explore and engage with the richness of cultural diversity in the city.

Priority 5: We will continue to advance sustainable quality arts provision for children and young people through direct provision and appropriate partnerships

This means that we will:

- Continue to promote and support an integrated programme of arts development, cultural festivals and events
- Provide an annual outdoor event programme in the city centre.
- Maximise the potential use of Dublin City Council public spaces and parks through the event programme
- Attract and facilitate major city events and festivals
- Encourage and promote volunteerism in the support of cultural activity and events in the city
- Support arts and cultural organisations to attract and retain younger artists, audiences and participants
- Promote the libraries' role as a hub of city-wide information service, cultural events and learning opportunities
- Collaborate with our partners in the business, tourism and arts communities to create an online information portal about cultural activities in the City
- Collaborate with partners in the formal and non-formal education sectors to support arts provision for children and young people

Theme 4: Lead the development of excellent cultural infrastructure

Priority 1: We will lead, support and provide for a sustainable cultural infrastructure for Dublin reflecting its role as a capital city.

Priority 2: We will place the city's built fabric and its cultural assets at the centre of cultural experience.

Priority 3: We will maximise the contribution of the planning and development process in the provision of cultural infrastructure and ensure that culture is an integral part of all Dublin City Council's planning and development strategies.

This means that we will:

- Continue to map existing cultural and community assets (artists, organisations, festivals, facilities and institutions)
- Work with the Cultural alliance to identify cultural infrastructural needs
- Collaborate with the planning department to ensure that all larger planning developments in the city make provision for cultural infrastructural requirements
- Develop and maintain Dublin City's network of community cultural facilities

- Identify libraries, which are most appropriate for a range of cultural usage.

Theme 5: Recognise that culture is essential to the city's economic vitality

Priority 1: We will advocate the vital cultural role of Dublin in underpinning the national economy.

Priority 2: We will ensure that culture is a key driver in the generation of economic growth in a competitive, successful city.

Priority 3: We will articulate the distinctive cultural character of the city as an attractor of economic investment and a talented workforce.

Priority 4: We will affirm and maximise the role of the creative cultural industries in the City.

This means that we will:

- Highlight the role of culture in promoting a 'Dublin' brand
- Building on the city's distinctive competitive advantages, work with partners to develop a cultural tourism strategy.
- In partnership advocate for additional exchequer investment in arts and culture to benefit the city economy
- Work with IDA and Enterprise Ireland to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) of cultural enterprises to the Dublin region
- Assist in the gathering of data on the value of the Creative Industries to the city's economy.
- Support the development of cultural clusters, which bring together arts and cultural activities with complementary commercial/recreational services to create vibrant, safe and complete audience experiences.
- Develop city cultural indicators, which will measure and track overall performance and progress in comparison to other cities of similar size and composition.
- Leverage civic investment to attract investment of additional resources in support of the cultural sector.
- Promote Dublin as a destination for national and international touring exhibitions and performances.
- Develop synergies and activities between business, education and the arts across the City.
- Participate in the development and research of critical economic linkages between science/technology and arts/culture.

Theme 6: Ensure that culture plays a significant role in urban regeneration and reflects the identity of Dublin neighbourhoods

Priority 1: We will ensure that culture is an integral part of all Dublin City Council's planning and development strategies.

Priority 2: We will harness the role of arts and culture in strengthening neighbourhood and community identities.

Priority 3: We will acknowledge, explore and engage with the richness of cultural diversity in the city.

This means that we will:

- Develop area based cultural objectives for inclusion in all local area framework strategies and plans throughout the city.
- Ensure that all local area framework strategies incorporate relevant priorities and actions of the Cultural Strategy.
- Support community led cultural activities and events.
- Continue the support/mentoring programmes led by the Area Arts Officers
- Facilitate the provision of additional sustainable cultural infrastructure at the neighbourhood level.
- Support festivals and events that promote mutual respect among the city's diverse communities