

## **SCULPTURE DUBLIN**

### **ABOUT SCULPTURE DUBLIN**

Sculpture Dublin aims to raise awareness of Dublin's sculptural heritage and to commission new works in parks and public spaces city-wide. It is a Dublin City Council initiative, developed by Parks and Landscape Services and the City Arts Office and supported by the Hugh Lane Gallery and Visual Artists Ireland.

The programme objective is two-fold: to increase the visibility of existing public sculpture in Dublin, building public awareness of and interest in sculpture, and to commission exciting new works which enhance and draw attention to different locations and aspects of the city. Dublin City Council will commission a public sculpture in each of the 5 DCC administrative areas: North West, North Central, Central, South Central and South East.

### **SELECTION OF SITES FOR NEW COMMISSIONS**

A set of criteria has been developed to assess the suitability of locations. The proposed site should:

1. Be in the public domain;
2. Be visible to a broad and diverse general public;
3. Be in the ownership of Dublin City Council;
4. Be suitable for the best display of the sculpture;
5. Give scope for artists to create a significant and noteworthy sculpture;
6. Represent a deficit in the provision of public sculpture in the city i.e. there are no existing sculptures in the immediate surrounding area.

### **SOUTH EAST AREA**

In response to feedback from Councillors at the South East Area Committee meeting on 9 March 2020, the team surveyed additional parks and green spaces in the Kimmage/Crumlin area. Of all the parks surveyed in the South East Area, Bushy Park in Terenure and Eamonn Ceannt Park in Kimmage are the most suited to large-scale public art commissions and fulfil many of the criteria on the Sculpture Dublin checklist.

Between them, Bushy Park is the preferred choice. There are no sculptures in this park and it accommodates a variety of landscapes and terrains (playing fields, open grassy areas, woodland, riverbank, more formal water gardens) which may inspire and inform the commissioned artwork. This, coupled with the scale of the park, will facilitate a more open/less prescriptive brief for applicants. It would give artists more of a 'free hand' and provide them with the opportunity to select potential locations within the park and develop proposals that respond to the kind of landscape that the work will be situated in.

Eamonn Ceannt Park is largely laid out in flat open grassland with walkways, planting of mature trees and sports facilities (football pitches and velodrome) alongside pockets of "free space" which could accommodate artwork. It has good road frontage on Sundrive Road, the side of the park most suited to the installation of public sculpture, though this is somewhat obscured by railings and trees. Overall, it is a very strong second choice and will be considered for a second phase of commissions.