



## Report on Street Art

### Opportunities:

- In 2019 The City arts Office and Public Realm organised a Street Art Forum with Artists at The Mansion House. A Street Art Working Group was formed and advises DCC.
- There is a strong interest from the public and artists in Street Art for the City and a huge number of requests for spaces, advice on artists and particularly, requests for locations.
- Currently, most applications request an exemption from Planning and seek to work in partnership with Dublin City Council. Many of these projects are in response to a community engagement or place making project.
- Some funding has been made available through new opportunities such as Creative Ireland.
- There are a growing number of artists working in the field including female collectives such as Epoch and Mná Collective.
- Hoardings require less regulation and can provide opportunities for a series of artworks to be painted and create a local focal point such as this site at Grand Canal Dock



### Challenges:

- Working in partnership, DCC requests greater control over the street art that is painted and who it is carried out by. This puts increased responsibility on the Council in terms of the carrying out of the work and the content and allows for quality control.
- The need to apply for either planning or exemption means that it is difficult for artists to know where they can/can't paint
- It is expensive to paint over a mural which has become damaged/offensive.
- Locations - Protected structures and ACA areas are not generally allowed
- The Planning department are also reluctant to grant permission in areas where there are already a high number of murals already in place
- Scale of the city means understanding the politics/backstory for a particular wall requires deep local knowledge – how do we harness this and match it with opportunities?

- Community Engagement locally if so called 'legal walls' attract antisocial behaviour.

Planning have stipulated the following checklist for applicants for an exemption from Planning 41(F).

The following conditions shall apply:

1. The installation of artwork shall be carried out on the walls defined and agreed with Dublin City Council and identified in map attached
2. A letter of consent shall be obtained from the owner(s) of the wal(s) identified.
3. Painting of the walls by street artists shall only take place during daylight hours, any change/ exception must be agreed in advance by Dublin City Council.
4. This agreement shall apply for a period of 12 months commencing April 2021 and will be removed thereafter.
5. The installations shall contain no commercial or branded content including logos of the project partners.
6. The installations shall have no content which is political, religious, sexist or racist in nature or content which may be considered discriminatory.
7. Installations shall be original artwork.
8. Any installations shall not detract from the character or setting of a protected structure or Area of Architectural Conservation or any natural stone wall.
9. No paint or work shall impede on any adjoining walls or structures including utility equipment and shall retain a clear border from the front elevation and roof edges
10. Dublin City Council reserves the right to paint out artwork without explanation.
11. This exemption allows for the proposed content (Appendices A ) subject to the conditions set out above.
12. The hoarding wall will carry information giving a point of contact for the scheme should the public wish to make comment
13. Any changes to the process must be agreed in advance with the Planning Department and any other relevant parties.



**Legal wall:**

DCC defines a legal wall as one which is agreed as appropriate by all parties and has “a 41(f) with a landowner in a three-way agreement i.e. DCC, artist and landowner”.

**Plan:**

- Identify key sites in consultation with Street Art Community and Area offices and pre negotiate with the planning department. The Arts Office is conducting an Audit of possible sites. It will now establish ownership and owner agreement and seek to commission Arts works where possible.
- Establish legal walls within each of the five areas
- Create a mechanism to respond quickly to the need to repair/paint over murals
- Develop a Street Art Strategy for an Annual Street Art Jam for the city in partnership with key sites/partners eg. Bohemians Football stadium
- Inform and educate the public about street art (it was noted at the Street Art Forum that some people don't want a legal wall on their doorstep)
  - Engaging on a neighbourhood by neighbourhood basis
  - Work with area offices to understand different communities needs/preferences and the need to respond to them
  - Work with young people, supporting their creativity, create opportunities for young people (“young and old creatives”) through mentoring.

**Results:**

- Clearer opportunities for artists to understanding the process of finding a location
- Clearer opportunities for communities/businesses who want to commission an artist
- Promotional opportunities – Street Art Festival/Street Art Jam, Walking tours etc.
- Increased support at local level for Street Art

**Ray Yeates**  
City Arts Officer

**Sheena Barrett,**  
Asst. Arts Officer

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