



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Report to Arts, Culture, Leisure
and Recreation SPC

21st February 2022

Item No. 6

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL CULTURE COMPANY REPORT UPDATE



The launch in November of the 2022 Creative Residency in Sport and Wellbeing, a partnership between Dublin City Council Culture Company and the Dublin Sports and Wellbeing Partnership. Photo by Julian Behal

About Dublin City Council Culture Company

Dublin City Council Culture Company was established in March 2018, wholly owned by Dublin City Council. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has a Board of Directors of 7 persons.

Dublin City Council Culture Company runs cultural initiatives and buildings across the city with, and for, the people of Dublin. We collaborate with people, communities, cultural organisations, businesses, and Dublin City Council to embed cultural experiences and increase cultural participation throughout Dublin. Find out more at dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie

The Culture Company provides a six-monthly report to the Culture SPC

General update since last report

Alongside sustaining, growing and delivering our own programmes in 2022 we will continue to support the development and delivery of Dublin City Council programmes, projects and buildings, working closely with a number of sections throughout the council. We will continue to support the following council programmes as well as new opportunities for collaboration that may arise in 2022:

- Participation in the governance working group for Newcomen Bank and Kilmainham Mills.
- Partner with Smart Dublin to deliver the Smart Tourism programme.

- Maintain the Audit of Cultural infrastructure and networks on GIS in line with DCC Cultural Strategy.
- Assist Dublin City Libraries with the programming and delivery of the Dublin Festival of History and the Historians in Residence programme.
- Provide Inchicore Library with a temporary home in Richmond Barracks.
- Members of the Creative Ireland Dublin team
- A working group which we are part of has drafted a Dublin City Council Collections Management Policy, the process for drafting will conclude in the coming weeks
- In 2022 we will continue to work to sustain and grow our work throughout the cultural initiatives, tours and offerings in the Dublin City Council owned buildings we operate.

Key achievements and developments since our last SPC report:

Strategy and policy

- The Cultural Audit and Map was made by Dublin City Council Culture Company in partnership with Dublin City Council to deliver Priority 2(4) and 3(1) of the Dublin City Cultural Strategy (2016-2021). Data from the Dublin City Cultural Audit and Map contributed to a number of projects in 2021 including data or data research for the City Development Plan, Smart Dublin's Active Travel Challenges and the open data platforms (dublinked and Data.Gov.ie).
- In 2019 our inaugural Creative Residency @ King's Inns appointed artist Jesse Jones to explore the theme of art and law, and to develop a new artwork. In December 2021 Máirín de Burca unveiled a sculpture by internationally acclaimed artist Jesse Jones that was inspired by Máirín's extraordinary life of activism in Ireland is the result of the residency which is a partnership with The Honorable Society of King's Inns, Dublin where it is now displayed.
- The Dublin City Council Cultural Impact Study 2021 is a detailed research study that examines the impact of cultural participation in the work of Dublin City Council to demonstrate the impact of successful engagement in the work of the council. (incl Archaeology, Heritage, Climate Change, Parks, Sports, Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane, Libraries, Arts Office, Events, Community Development and Dublin City Council Culture Company) The outcomes of the research, and a promotional toolkit, will be shared with all sections and the wider Dublin City Council team in 2022, can be included in any new DCC Cultural Strategy and endeavour in 2022 to bring the sections together to share their experience and learnings.



● Máirín de Burca at the unveiling of a sculpture by internationally acclaimed artist Jesse Jones as part of the Creative Residency in Art & Law by Dublin City Council Culture Company and King's Inns

Information relevant to SPC

- We will continue to update and review the existing data sets of the Dublin City Cultural Audit and Map to keep that data live and accurate. Data will be reviewed annually with each section of Dublin City Council.

- We encourage the use of the data for more Dublin City Council strategic planning work and cultural projects or a new DCC Cultural Strategy and can assist departments interested in accessing and analysing the data.
- Our map team is also available to present information about the map and Culture Near You to DCC departments interested in finding out more about how they can use and access the data, and also to other public groups and organisations interested in using the public facing website to find local cultural services etc.
- Public consultation data - *Tea & Chats* is an ongoing programme of informal and open conversations over a cup of tea with people about what matters to them. This consultation process offers valuable insights into behaviours and attitudes to cultural participation and city life, as well as demonstrating the impact of the council's and the Culture Company's work. The Culture Company can make available our learnings from this consultation process to Dublin City Council sections on request.

Updates on planned activities for the next 4 months

Culture & creativity

Creative Residencies

- We will continue to run the Historian-in-Residence for Children residency at Richmond Barracks, in partnership with Dublin City Libraries for children aged 9 - 12 to uncover the stories of our city and its people
- Our newest Creative Residency, the Creative Residency in Art, Sport and Wellbeing, a partnership with the Dublin Sports and Wellbeing Partnership, has contracted 5 artists to work across different forms of sports and sportspeople and clubs across the city, including swimming, GAA, boxing, rugby and athletics.
- We will assist DCL in the delivery of the Historian in Residence programme of Dublin City Council, part of the Decade of Commemorations programme.

Participation and practice

14 Henrietta Street

- We will continue to develop our local engagement model and outreach programmes at 14 Henrietta Street further, launching a mobile museum, reactivating our schools programme and participating in other city wide festivals and events.
- We will host citywide memory sharing events in neighbourhoods across the city as part of the Your Tenement Memories oral histories project.
- We will re-launch Irish language tours and add ISL and Polish tours the first quarter of 2022

Dublin City Cultural Audit and Map

- We will continue to present Dublin's cultural mapping process to other cities, national and international, interested in replicating our model. Currently we are in conversation with Belfast City Council and Creative Prague who are embarking on their own Cultural Mapping project.

Culture Club & The National Neighborhood

- We will continue to work on these programmes with our partners, including Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin City Libraries, The Lab at Dublin City Arts Office and our national cultural institutions, aimed at audience development and increasing visitors and participation and involvement in culture.
- Re-establish our in-person events at a pre Covid-19 level as quickly but also continue to run a hybrid model maintaining an online offering while exploring new and creative ways to continue to connect in person too.

Richmond Barracks / Culture Connects @ Richmond Barracks.

- We will continue to run online programmes and in person events.
- SJH/HSE are returning full use of the building to us at the end of March, and then we will re-launch the cultural offerings at the building including historical walking tours,

talks, classes and workshops including creative writing, dance, gardening, art, genealogy, singing and more.

- Following the success of the December Christmas Craft Fair of local artists, creative industries and traders, we will run more local fairs across the year to support creatives, makers, artists and traders in the local area. Including crafts, food producers, artists, vintage and sustainable goods and more. These will be presented in partnership with the South Dublin City Partnership and Kilmainham Inchicore Network.
- We will continue to facilitate the operation of Inchicore library from the building.
- We are developing an Irish language version of our Richmond Barracks to Kilmainham walking tour, which will run initially during Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia, and will be available as part of our regular tours after that.

ACCESS Culture For All network (Urbact)

- We continue to represent Dublin as part of this Urbact project, a network of eight European capital cities - Amsterdam, Dublin, Lisbon, London, Sofia, Riga, Tallinn, Vilnius. Working together we are sharing ideas and experiences to create new policies for cultural inclusion.
- We have formed a local citizen's advisory group as part of the project and we will be working with them to implement and pilot local cultural activations which aim to address access to culture.

Culture Company Advisory Group

- Our citizen advisory group 2021 - 2023 is made up of nearly 100 people representing a diverse and broad cross section of Dublin life. The group includes people who have participated in our projects, community advocates, artists, singers, dancers, researchers, academics, makers, digital storytellers, publishers, social innovators, historians, and more. The group will support the creation of ideas and connections for the Culture Company. We will set up a number of working groups to help make improvements to specific areas of interest for the company, for example our ambitions Universal Design and Accessibility Policy.

Social, economic and tourism

14 Henrietta Street

- We are working to re-establish our tour capacities and events to pre Covid-19 level in order to build visitor numbers and grow engagement with our tours and programmes .
- We will continue to run a programme of tours (walking and museum tours), talks and special events and will continue to offer a hybrid model of online and in person events
- We will continue to work towards achieving accreditation for 14 Henrietta Street to the Heritage Council's Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI)
- We will embark on a programme to gain sustainable travel accreditation for the museum.
- We will continue to develop international markets, working closely with Failte Ireland and international tour operators, and participate in international travel and trade events.

Kilmainham Mill

- We are working with local residents and historians on an oral history project to collect stories and memories about the mill as part of research for a future visitor attraction.
- We will begin to document the work undertaken to redevelop the site and preserve the industrial heritage of the mill through video documentation, photography and interviews.

Dublin City Cultural Audit and Map

- We are working with Clear Channel to make the data from the mp available through their information points across the city.

Iseult Byrne,
CEO
21st February 2022