

October 2016

**To the Chairperson and Members of
the Central Area Committee**

The National Neighbourhood Project

This project is a collaboration between Dublin City Council and the National Cultural Institutions based in Dublin. The objective is to form partnerships with each other and local neighbourhoods in such a way that a high quality cultural initiative would result. This initiative would seek to connect the local, national and international cultural ambition of Dublin as a Capital City while ensuring the development of local cultural capacity. The National Cultural Institutions involved in the project are the Irish Museum of Modern Art, The Abbey Theatre, The National Museum, The Chester Beatty Library, The National Concert Hall, The National Gallery, The National Library and they are working in each of the 5 City Areas in close partnership with the Area Offices, Libraries, the Arts Office and the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery.

An Advisory Group has now been formed in each City Area, which consists of The Area Community Development Team, The Arts Office, City Libraries, and a National Cultural Institution(s). The projects are being developed through a process of consultation and collaboration. Local consultations are ongoing in each City Area to aid project development. Many of the community groups are in place, artists are currently being matched to the themes that have emerged from the communities, and significant progress in implementation will occur during the rest of 2016.

The criteria agreed for the projects being developed are:

- Contains Meaningful Participation and active engagement by residents of the Area
- Is Impactful – Personally, Locally, Nationally and Internationally
- Is Inclusive & Accessible (intellectually, physically & virtually)
- Is Ambitious & Challenging, Innovative & of high quality
- Is relevant (to the community, the area, the institution and to Dublin City Council)
- Is Feasible and Realistic

Project Descriptions - update 22nd August 2016

National Neighbourhood - Central Area

FOOD JOURNEYS: This project will connect with communities old and new across Dublin's historic central area. Working with the [National Library of Ireland](#), communities will leave their mark by weaving their own stories into this valuable living resource, drawing on and enriching its collection. Through consultations with the community of the central area, emerging themes of mothering, belonging, words and work will be explored and connected through mapping the story, role and journey of food in the city from the docks to the markets and from the streets to the table. Artists will work with groups such as Dockworkers Preservation Society, Just ASK homework group, the Macro Community Resource Centre women's group, DALC Dublin Adult Learning Centre and others to explore the central place of food in our culture, connecting to memory, culture and place. The collaborating artists are currently being selected for these projects.

Ray Yeates

City Arts Officer