



Cultural Development 2024/2025 Workplan

Place and Economy Department
Economic Division



Culture Update – 2024-25 Priorities

Project Name	Project Description	Actions/Targets	Timeline and Milestones	Budget
Core multi-annual funding	<p>Management of year 4 of cultural multi-annual funding programme (CMAG)</p> <p>Two year funding 2022-2024: £473,425 to 15 Festivals and Events organisations and £ 587,462 to 30 Arts and Heritage organisations</p> <p>Four year funding 2020-2024: £600,240 to four Festivals and Events organisations and £791,783 to ten Arts and Heritage organisations</p>	59 organisations supported to deliver annual programme of activities in Belfast.	Ongoing	£2,452,910
Small Grants Arts and Heritage Community Festivals Funding	Programme of project grant support for cultural organisations as a new strand of investment programme to support cultural strategy outcomes.	Support a minimum 15 cultural projects and 15 community festivals.	April 2024 to March 2025	£132,344 (A&H) £69,000 (CFF) + DfC match funding £10,000 Grants admin linked to CFF
Artist Studio and Creative Workspaces	A continuation of scheme to support Belfast based artist studios and maker spaces to ensure a stable infrastructure for 2024/25.	Artist studios and maker spaces programme – at least 15 organisations, collectives and artists supported	April 2024 to March 2025 Launched in June 2025	£100,000
Artist Studio and Creative Workspaces	Development of targeted capacity building programme with Artist Studio and Creative workspace sector in partnership with Arts and Business NI.	At least 15 organisations, collectives and artists supported	April 2024 to March 2025	£30,000

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Sector Support Programme	Design and deliver wraparound support programme aligned to investment model. Includes support for Festivals Forum, Visual Arts Forum and Green Arts Forum.	Support a minimum of 50 cultural organisations. Development work to support late night art	April 2024 to March 2025	£65,000
Research and development	Commission further research and engagement, collect and analyse data to ensure strategic approach to investment and delivery.	Development of stage one research and stakeholder mapping on public art.	April 2024 to March 2025	£25,000
Heritage Development	Development of phase two of Heritage Audit and Roadmap for development, including development of capacity building programmes and designing action plans through a co-design process.	Heritage Audit and Roadmap for Development	April 2024 to March 2025	£45,000
Cultural animation and Art in Public Realm	Further develop a 'City as a Gallery' or 'Art in the Public Realm' initiatives including Belfast Canvas. Development of a "legal walls" pilot programme and development of mentoring programme for Street Art Community.	At least 20 key sites across the city Street Art mentoring programme reaching a minimum of 30 artists	April 2024 to March 2025	£15,000 £30,000

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Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Delivery of Blueprint Programme (yr 3) in partnership with Arts and Business NI	Organisations supported through a pipeline to develop assets that has commercial potential	April 2024 to March 2025	£30,000
Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Continue partnership with University of Atypical to promote accessibility in cultural spaces and support training for disability champions within the cultural sector.	Support for a minimum of 20 organisations and artists to enhance accessibility provision. A minimum of 6 Venues supported with Social Narrative Videos	April 2024 to March 2025	£25,000
Capacity Building	Support capacity building programmes including co-design of programmes for underrepresented groups or where gaps are identified. Support established organisations to adapt to change and to support new organisations and practitioners to take longer term risks in programming or creative development. Development and delivery of catalyst projects and programmes with community partners.	A minimum of 50 cultural organisations or creative practitioners supported. Development and delivery of action plans following R&D and co-design programme development.	April 2024 to March 2025	£50,000
Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Develop schemes to support higher participation and representation at cultural events by disabled people including Gig Buddies programme 2021 – 2024 in partnership with the Black Box.	Delivery of year three of the Gig Buddies programme.	April 2024 to March 2025	£45,000

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Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Work in partnership with Theatre & Dance NI to deliver a professional 3 year development and capacity building programme 'Transform' for artists in theatre & dance sector at differing career stages, focusing on networking, mentoring and creation.	Delivery of Transform - theatre and dance sector development programme.	April 2024 to March 2025	£30,000
Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Work in partnership with Craft NI to deliver inclusive programme of showcase and professional development events for makers in Belfast including growth of August craft month	Delivery of support and development programme for craft makers in Belfast.	April 2024 to March 2025	£18,000
Sectoral Development and Strategic Partnerships	Partnership with Thrive audience development agency to support audience development across the sector.	A minimum of 20 organisations supported.	April 2024 to March 2025	£20,000
Networking	Support active participation in relevant local, regional and international cultural networks including but not limited to IETM, Eurocities Culture Forum, and other relevant international networks	Support for at least eight cultural exchanges, events and networking opportunities.	April 2024 to March 2025	£10,000