



DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL  
ARTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2016 | 2022



Cover image : Kish, 2016 by Damien Flood  
Courtesy of the Artist and Green on Red Gallery.

Kish is one of a series of works by Damien Flood called Terra Incognita; it was commissioned by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council for exhibition in the Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon. The commission was generously funded by the Arts Council.

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Mountains to Sea, dlr Book Festival  
Photo Credit: Ger Holland Photography



# introduction

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Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Arts Development Plan is a framework for the continuing sustainable development of the Arts locally for the period 2016-2022. This plan has been prepared following extensive consultation with local communities, key stakeholders and the county's arts sector; a process that began in December 2015 and was guided by the Council's Community Development, Culture and Ageing Strategic Policy Committee.

The implementation of this plan will see Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council work with the public, artists and partners, both local and national, to sustain and grow the arts within this County for the benefit of all.

The Arts Development Plan 2016-2022 was duly adopted by the Elected Members of the Council at a monthly Council meeting on the 14th November 2016.

## national context

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is required by the Arts Act 2003 to prepare an arts plan. Local arts development is an integral part of local government planning, with the arts playing a pivotal role in the social and economic life of a county and helping to establish a sense of community. Nationally, the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs identifies that local authorities “provide a key link in the relationship between national policies and the cultural experience of people in their everyday lives.” (*Culture 2025- Éire Ildánach, A Framework Policy to 2025, Draft Document*)

This development plan is informed by the formal agreement between the Arts Council and the County and City Management Association entitled *A Framework for Collaboration* which acknowledges local authorities as “equal public partners in providing for and developing the arts”, and *Making Great Art Work*, the Arts Council Strategy 2016-2025.

Matisse inspired Early Years workshop in Municipal Gallery

Photo Credit: Helen Barry



## local context

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County is located between the outer suburbs of Dublin City, the South Dublin coastline and the Dublin/Wicklow Mountains. The County has a population of 217,274 (2016 Census) having risen by 5.3% since 2011. Spatially it is the smallest in Ireland, covering an area of 125km squared. Dún Laoghaire and Dundrum are recognised as the two major towns in the County.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is home to an enviable and vibrant community of artists and those active in the arts at a professional, amateur and community level.

The award winning dlr LexIcon, including the County's Municipal Gallery; the Pavilion Theatre, Municipal Theatre for the County; and Dance Theatre of Ireland's Centre for Dance are all based in Dún Laoghaire town. Lambert Puppet Theatre and Cultúralann na hEireann, home to the national headquarters of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann can be found in Monkstown; dlr Mill Theatre is in Dundrum; and the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Art Facility is based in Cabinteely Park. Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre is home to the Writers Gallery and the theatre company, Delig Inis. In Sandycove you will find the James Joyce Museum.

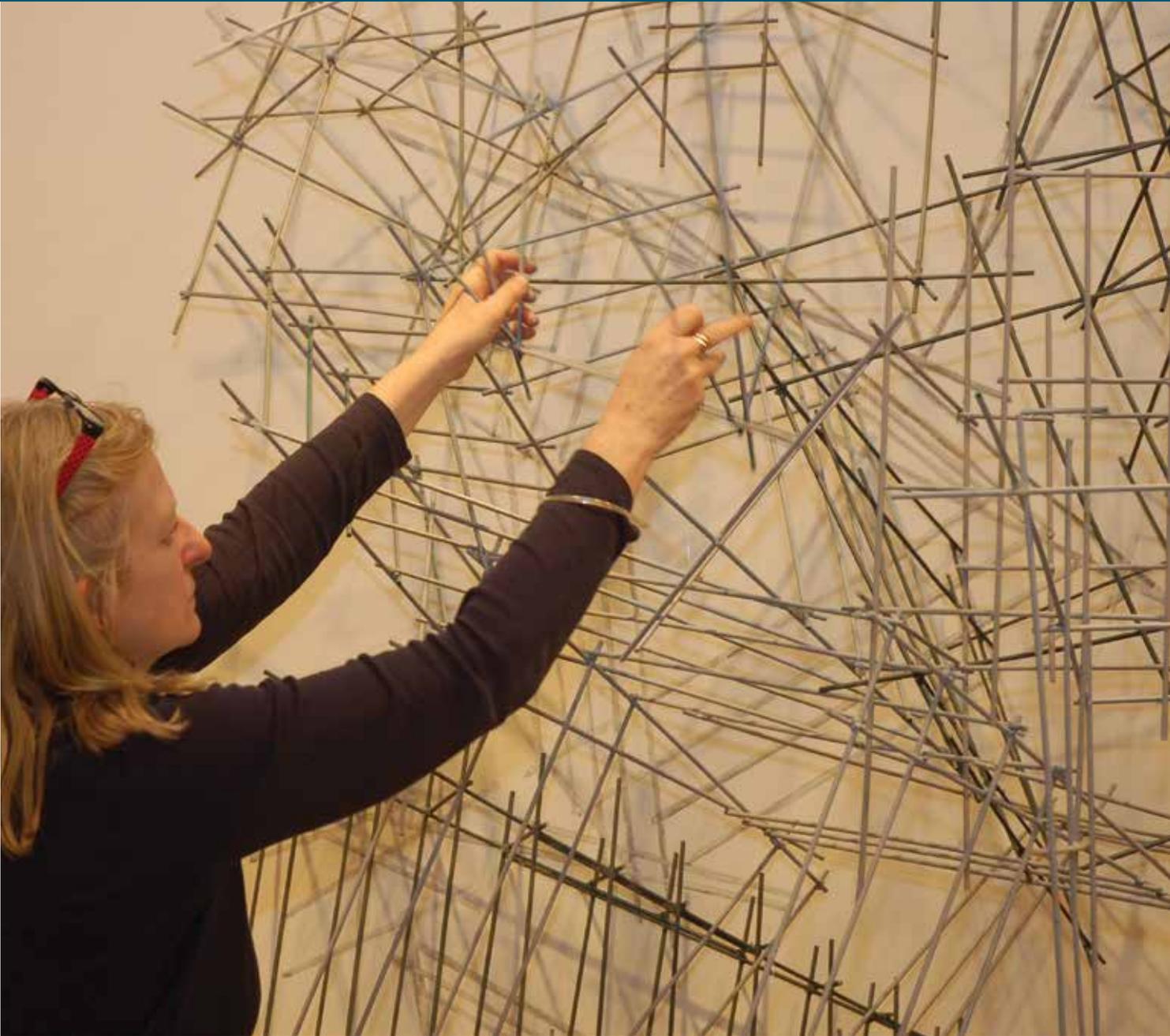
Third level colleges play a significant role in developing the next generation of artists and arts workers with IADT and UCD being the largest. IADT's campus houses the impressive National Film School complex while UCD's campus includes an extensive sculpture trail, state of the art theatre and film facilities at the Student Centre, and Parity Studios – a ground-breaking collaboration exploring art and science.

Amateur music and drama holds a very special place in the cultural life of dlr, as does choral and organ music, with St. Michael's Church in Dún Laoghaire playing host to an annual summer organ music festival; while our world famous literary heritage is inspiration to numerous festivals and events.

There is also a diverse range of community-based arts activity in local youth groups, active retirement groups, and other organisations and groups throughout the County.

Artist Felicity Clear installing her work in the Municipal Gallery

Photo Credit: dlr Arts Office



# developing the arts in dún laoghaire-rathdown

Since 1994 Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council has taken great pride in developing and supporting the Arts. The Council views the Arts as an important service that contributes to the quality of life for those who live in, work in and visit the County. It is extremely proud of its reputation as a supportive home for the arts and believes in their intrinsic value and the vital contribution that they make to the wellbeing and quality of life of the County.

Over the last 22 years the Council's Arts Office has commissioned and produced an exciting range of festivals, exhibitions, artist residencies, schools projects, arts and health initiatives and public art programmes in order to grow and sustain local arts development.

The Arts Office manages The Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility, provides an annual subvention to support the work of the Pavilion Theatre and dlr Mill Theatre, and facilitates individual artists and arts organisations through the provision of dlr annual arts grants.

It commissions the Council's Public Art Programme and cares for the County Art Collection of over 130 artworks and public sculptures.

In partnership with dlr Library Service, the Arts Office produces Mountains to Sea, dlr Book Festival and curates dlr LexIcon's cultural programme which includes the County's Municipal Gallery.

The Arts Office manages Creative Classrooms, one of the longest running artists in schools schemes in the country, in partnership with Blackrock Education Centre. Creative Classrooms has supported the cultural education of primary school children since 1994. Working with the HSE Mid-Leinster it has developed new ways of working in the field of Arts and Health by investing in research based commissions and programming for older people and people with disabilities in particular.

“Finders and Keepers” curator panel with artist/curator Claire Halpin

Photo credit : dlr Arts Office



# continuing the conversation

*Continuing the Conversation 2011-2014* was the Council's second arts development plan. In advance of the consultation phase for this new plan, *Continuing the Conversation* guided the arts programme until the end of 2015. Below is an outline of the key achievements over that period, as well as the strengths and areas for future growth which will inform future goals and objectives.

## Achievements

All programmes initiated in response to the priorities set out in *Continuing the Conversation* during 2011- 2014 and including 2015 are detailed in Appendix 1. Significant achievements in this period of arts development include:

- › Sustained and increased investment in the visual arts through the commissioning and showcasing of significant exhibition programmes featuring local and national artists and curators. This included the very successful opening and first full years' programming of the new Municipal Gallery in dlr Lexlcon.
- › The progression of the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility. The centre has seen year on year growth in programme and visitor numbers - serving over 130,000 local young people in this five year period,
- › Creative Classrooms which energised and inspired 34 local primary schools with over 600 hours of arts workshops, facilitating 818 pupils and up skilling 48 teachers whilst also providing employment to artists.
- › The development and on-going support of dlr Artists Network, at arm's length to the Council; a representative body delivering professional development and support to dlr Artists.
- › The continuation of Arts Grants supports, facilitating the creation and showcasing of new work throughout dlr.

- › Increased investment in literature. By celebrating the County’s literary heritage through Mountains to Sea, dlr Book Festival including dlr Poetry Now, and hosting an annual Writer in Residence in partnership with dlr Library Service, the Arts Office has supported the development of individual writer’s careers, created engaging public programmes to inspire and entertain, and encouraged emerging talent.
- › The strategic development of an Arts and Health Partnership with the HSE. This partnership has focused on the needs of a healthy Ireland through engagement with the Arts. It has included the creation of the award winning Dementia Choirs, the founding of the older persons orchestra and delivery of countywide dance programmes for older people.

In developing other art form areas, beyond the priorities above, the Council also

- › supported a theatre artist in residence in both the dlr Mill and Pavilion Theatres
- › commissioned and produced a public engagement in architecture project
- › created opportunities in response to the national ‘Year of Craft 2012’
- › introduced Culture Night in 2014
- › piloted a project to build capacity in choral music in the County
- › toured the Cinemobile countywide with a community curated programme of art-house film.

The delivery of dlr Lexlcon, a major capital cultural infrastructure project, and the largest in the history of the County, was not anticipated when formulating the arts development policy in 2010. As such, resources were redirected to support the development at pre-programming stage, for what could now be considered the national standard in cultural provision through library and arts services.

The current programme and future potential of dlr Lexlcon has, and will continue to have, a lifelong impact on the development of the arts within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. Therefore, it was right that time and resources were invested in developing inclusive strategies and programmes which embraced the local arts sector and wider community in the delivery of their Central Library and Cultural Centre.

## Strengths & Areas for Growth

This period of local arts development has seen the delivery of dlr Lexlcon, one of the most significant cultural buildings nationally. The work commissioned, created and showcased throughout the building, its Municipal Gallery and Studio will be a catalyst for future generations and a driver of on-going arts development both locally and regionally.

The Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility has also played a vital and active role inspiring a future generation – of both young artists and audience. Local young people have found a home in the Grainstore, a supportive environment which encourages self-expression, creativity and empowerment.

The Council has, over a challenging economic period, maintained its significant support of the arts, whilst also further developing local arts infrastructure. Artists, curators, facilitators and arts educators were commissioned to produce work and engage with communities throughout the County. From crèches to leisure centres, care homes to schools, parish halls to universities, the arts development plan has worked to engage everyone in Dún Laoghaire –Rathdown.

The strengths of this development plan were found in:

- › strategic local and national partnerships
- › the excellent artists we worked with
- › a ground up approach to programming
- › maintaining an on-going conversation with local communities of interest with the support of other Council departments.

Areas for growth may include:

- › on-going improvements to communications, especially digital platforms
- › supports for artists at all stages of their careers
- › a desire to diversify the art forms we support, especially music.

The implementation of *Continuing the Conversation* sought to be socially inclusive and made a significant contribution to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's sense of place; it actively engaged local citizens and contributed to an improved quality of life.

# methodology

Following a review of the last plan to identify its achievements, strengths and the areas in need of further development, the Council asked the public to engage in a process to develop a new arts plan using both quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Public consultations, widely advertised and held in dlr LexIcon, Dún Laoghaire and dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum, posed questions to the participants and break out focus groups were convened.

A questionnaire was also devised and distributed online through Citizen Space and was available in hard copy in all dlr Library branches and the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility.

The consultation process identified the following priorities, ranked highest to lowest:

- › Studio space for artists
- › Rehearsal space (theatre groups, music, performing arts)
- › More grant/funding opportunities for artists
- › Exhibition space for artists
- › Better advertising of events/ more communication with artists
- › More music events (classical & opera)
- › Opportunities for collaborative projects across art forms
- › Workshops for artists /mentoring
- › Artist networking opportunities
- › More family friendly events and exhibitions

The formation of this development plan was led by the Council's Community Development, Culture and Ageing Strategic Policy Committee and written by the Council's Arts Office team. The approach, goals and ambitions were informed by public consultation, stakeholder engagement and key national and Council policies listed in Appendix 1. The research was further complimented by a review of current arts development policies and learning gathering from the implementation of the Council's first two arts plans.

Turkish storytellers performing in dlr LexIcon as part of a dlr-Turkey cultural exchange.  
Photo credit : Peter Kavanagh



# mission and goals

The mission of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is to ‘lead in the delivery, co-ordination and regulation of quality public services for our communities, in partnership with our stakeholders.’

Through the delivery of this plan, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will play a pivotal role in the growth of arts and culture at a local level, while leading the direction for future development and investment.

Through the ambitions of this plan the Council will provide leadership to create and grow capacity within the local arts sector in order to enhance our quality of life, promote and support a sense of local identity and pride of place, and support the local economy.

In response to the consultation process, stakeholder engagement and research, the identified goals for this development plan are:

**GOAL 1:** Public – Engage and Inspire

**GOAL 2:** Artists - Time and Space

**GOAL 3:** Partners – Enrich and Strengthen

## Public– Engage and Inspire

- › Work to increase engagement in the arts throughout the County for all ages as creators, spectators and participants.
- › Support and sustain existing cultural assets and ensure the best return on our investment for everyone in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County.
- › Provide greater opportunities for active participation in the arts, paying special attention to social and cultural diversity.

## Artists - Time and Space

- › Continue to value local artists and champion their intrinsic contribution to our community.
- › Create an environment which supports their practice and provides opportunities to celebrate their work.
- › Work to address challenges in career progression and barriers to the creation of new work locally.

## Partners - Enrich and Strengthen

- › Continue to work with our existing partners and seek to create new networks to deliver on the Council's goals in a strategic and developmental way, ensuring best value for money.
- › Through partnerships, create even greater opportunities for local artists and public to access the best learning experiences and benefit from courageous artistic challenges.
- › Working with the Arts Council, seek to maximise shared resources and policy priorities, to realise even greater potential collectively.

In implementing this plan, the Council will develop programmes and actions that deliver on at least two of our goals simultaneously so as to provide the greatest impact with the resources available.

'Selfies' printmaking workshop at the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility  
Photo Credit: : dlr Arts Office



dlr Storyteller in Residence 2016 Fiona Dowling  
Photo Credit : Richard Lennon



# ambitions and objectives

## GOAL 1: PUBLIC - ENGAGE AND INSPIRE

Create opportunities for the public to engage with the Arts.

### AMBITION

Provide an Arts Service which increases the quality of life for people who live in, work in or visit the county.

### OBJECTIVES

- › **Encourage creators, spectators and participants.** Creating access points to the arts is at the heart of this arts policy and is a key priority for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The Arts Office will work to ensure that local arts provision creates opportunities for all who live in, work in and visit the county to engage with the arts as creators, spectators and participants.
- › **Support the on-going development of local theatres.** Continue to provide support to the Pavilion, the Municipal Theatre for the County; and dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum to support their on-going development and growth. The County's two theatres will provide access to quality performing arts events, and touring companies of national importance, and showcase the best local community and amateur performing arts.
- › **Programme the Municipal Gallery to showcase the visual arts in dlr LexIcon.** Five exhibition programmes will be presented in the Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon per year. The exhibitions, including commissioned, open call, submission and touring shows, will offer visitors access to art works by national, international and local artists. It will also provide the opportunity for people of all ages to learn more about the arts, furthering the Council's commitment to promote life-long learning.

- › **Grow the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility.** The operations of the Grainstore will be reviewed in order to inform the best use of the facility for the public. The Council's vision is to have the best quality of residential life by 2022. The Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility is a unique resource that is nationally acclaimed for engaging with tens of thousands of young people in an inclusive environment. It enables young people to become future creatives and learn skills to fully participate in the cultural and economic life of the county.
- › **Produce Mountains to Sea, dlr Book Festival.** The Arts Office will continue to co-produce the annual Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival with dlr Library Service. Specialist events and festivals such as Mountains to Sea attract tourists and visitors to the County and contribute to making the area a desirable place to visit.
- › **Care for the County Art Collection.** The Arts Office will further develop and care for the County Art Collection. New ways of making the artworks accessible throughout the County will be explored; this will include considering locations beyond local authority buildings.
- › **Collaborate with dlr Library Service to grow engagement with the Arts.** The Arts Office will work with dlr Library Service to further increase arts programming opportunities in the branch libraries. Working with the library network countywide enables people of all ages and from different backgrounds to get involved in the artistic life of the county.
- › **Promote the Arts in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.** One of the key requirements of the dlr Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 is to realise the full potential of the tourism, recreation, heritage and cultural sectors. Awareness of the wide range of cultural activities organised by the local authority, through multi-platform promotion and marketing, will be further developed to support the objective of promoting the County as an attractive environment to work in, live in and visit.

## GOAL 2: ARTISTS - TIME AND SPACE

Work to provide both space and time for artists to create new work locally.

### AMBITION

We want to continually be inspired by local artists and their work. To do this we will explore and progress opportunities to provide both space and resources, where relevant and when resources permit, so artists have the time and facilities to research, experiment and showcase their work.

### OBJECTIVES

- › **Deliver Artists' Studios.** A large arts infrastructure project, the Baths Studios will provide significant support to visual artists. Alongside dlr LexIcon, the Design Gallery and the Pavilion Theatre, dlr Baths Studios will form a creative cluster reinforcing the County's reputation as a creative place to live, work and visit.
- › **Increase Arts Grants provision.** The Arts Grants provide funding to a large number of organisations and practitioners countywide. These generate and support a wide variety of activities in different art forms and represent excellent value for money. Over the lifetime of this plan the Council aims to increase funding support for the Arts grants.
- › **Explore potential opportunities to promote puppetry and dance.** Puppetry and dance have a special place within the arts locally. Working with county arts organisations, the Council will explore opportunities to promote the development of these two art forms.
- › **Invest in the creation of new, locally relevant artworks.** Support a variety of commissions, including public art opportunities, to encourage the development, creation and showcasing of new work which has local relevance. Artists and their work create a sense of place and a unique local identity which contributes to an attractive and creative community in which to live and work.

- › **Reinvigorate the artist residency programme.** Working with established and new partners, provision will be sought to create a number of residencies each year, in a variety of art forms with special annual provision for literature and music. This programme is a key method of support for artists' research and project development.
- › **Support professional development opportunities.** The Council will continue to support the professional development of artists in the County so that artists can sustain and grow their careers locally.
- › **Encourage emerging artists.** Design targeted measures to ensure emerging artists are supported at the initial stages of their careers. Schemes may include specific funding, mentorship programmes or showcasing opportunities. The Council will work to support artists at every stage of their career and recognises the challenge of establishing an arts practice.
- › **Create space to work.** Identified as a key requirement, the Council will research and test new ways to support artists who need to access rehearsal space or specialist equipment in order to create work. By maximising cultural assets across the county, this objective will help sustain artistic practice locally.

### GOAL 3: PARTNERS – ENRICH AND STRENGTHEN

Deliver the best arts service possible for our shared communities.

#### AMBITION

The Council will build partnerships with a variety of organisations and communities from different sectors to ensure that its vision for the development of the arts is strategic and has a broad reach.

#### OBJECTIVES

- › **Lead Creative Classrooms, dlr Primary Arts.** Continue to lead this programme in partnership with the education sector. The Council recognises the importance of life-long learning and the positive impact that early intervention has to address education inequality. Cultural education aids the vision of the Council's Development Plan for the County to possess the best quality of residential life by 2022. The Arts Office will support annual projects in each electoral area; and include Gaelscoils and special needs schools.
- › **Progress arts and health.** Provide opportunities under the Healthy Ireland Framework that will deliver on the dual benefits of arts and health, particularly for older people living in the County. dlr has the highest proportion of over 65 year olds in an ageing country. Working with partners in local services, and nationally with the HSE, dlr will continue to provide direction in the area of Arts and Health that encourages public participation, especially among the older generation, which supports health and well-being. The Arts Office will also deliver projects on an annual basis that contribute to dlr's Age Friendly County targets.
- › **Champion social inclusion.** Working in partnership across internal departments, ensure that arts opportunities are proactive in enabling equal access to the arts, regardless of age or ability. The dlr Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 looks to support marginalised communities through collaboration to reduce social exclusion and poverty. The Arts has a role here by creating a sense of pride within communities which are sometimes excluded from cultural activities.

- › **Encourage social cohesion.** The Council will encourage social cohesion by creating specific arts opportunities across internal-departments and external organisations. By delivering projects that include and support marginalised groups the Council works to improve the quality of life for those who live in the County, enhance civic engagement and reduce social isolation.
- › **Source new funding partners.** The Council will continue to pursue national and international funding partners to benefit the arts in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County. Collaboration with partners leads to best use of public resources, both human and financial.

Book signing at Mountains to Sea, dlr Book Festival

Photo credit : Ger Holland Photography



# implementation, evaluation and monitoring

In consultation with other departments, the implementation of the arts development plan will be programmed by the Council's Arts Office through an annual business plan. The yearly programme will include artist residencies, commissions for the creation of new work, exhibitions, grants, bursaries, events, readings, arts education and curator opportunities. Where possible, opportunities will be publicly tendered and peer selected with Arts Office personnel. Other elements of the programme will be curated by the Arts Office team or invited specialist curators.

The Council will monitor and review the arts programme against the goals and actions as outlined in this plan using a framework that establishes targets, performance indicators and progress milestones. Annual reports and progress updates will be made to the Community Development, Culture and Ageing Strategic Policy Committee.

A cornerstone of the review process will be to collect regular feedback from the three groups identified in the policy: artists, public and partners. This feedback will be gathered by a variety of methods and will include questionnaires and reports, collated by externals to ensure objectivity.

Newpark Senior Orchestra performing in dlr LexIcon  
Photo Credit: dlr Arts Office



GOAL	TARGET/S	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PROGRESS MILESTONE
<b>ARTISTS:</b> dlr Baths	Completion build date 2018	15 artists supported by the studios between 2018 and 2022	Business case compiled by end of Q1 2017
<b>ARTISTS:</b> Supported by dlr arts grants	Annual targets set in yearly business plan	Increase in number of awards made per annum.  Increase of 30% in the value of grants awarded over the life of the plan	Annual monitoring of applications received and grants awarded.
<b>ARTISTS:</b> Support for the creation of new work  Support for emerging artists	Annual targets set in yearly business plan	Over the life of this plan provide a minimum of 6 visual arts commissions;  6 music residencies with a minimum outcome of 12 public performances;  3 writers in residence and 24 targeted bursaries per annum for emerging artists	Regular monitoring of number and quality of applications.  Regular feedback from applicants will be sought to best serve the needs of artists.
<b>ARTISTS:</b> Number of venues facilitating artist creative spaces in the County	Annual targets set in yearly business plan	24 arts organisations, artist and/ or companies supported between 2017 and 2022.	Business case compiled by end of Q1 2017.  Progress to be reviewed annually

<p><b>PARTNERS:</b> Arts education for primary school children</p>	<p>Electoral areas, DEIS schools, Gaelscoileanna, special needs schools within the county.</p>	<p>6 in-school projects per annum engaging children, teachers, SNAs.</p> <p>Creating employment opportunity for 6 artists per year.</p> <p>Facilitate 1 project as gaeilge per annum.</p>	<p>Annual evaluation with artists and teachers.</p> <p>Monitoring of Blog and visits to schools.</p>
<p><b>PARTNERS:</b> Access to cultural life of the county for older people</p>	<p>Age Friendly County targets. Improving quality of life for older people in the county.</p>	<p>Delivering projects on an annual basis that fit the criteria as outlined in the Healthy Ireland Framework.</p>	<p>Monitor and evaluate projects in line with requirements as outlined by the principal partner, the HSE.</p>
<p><b>PARTNERS:</b> Access to the cultural life of the county for perceived marginalised groups/ communities</p>	<p>Social Inclusion targets. Ensuring that dlr is the best residential place to live by 2020 and improving quality of life for marginalised communities/ groups.</p>	<p>Delivering projects with internal and external partners that include and encourage marginalised groups/ communities from the county to engage in cultural activities.</p>	<p>Monitor and evaluate projects against Council's social inclusion measures.</p>

<p><b>PUBLIC:</b> Opportunities for the public to engage with and have access to cultural activities.</p>	<p>Annual targets set in yearly business plan.</p> <p>Quality of life targets.</p>	<p>Increase in number of tickets sold in the Pavilion and dlr Mill Theatres</p> <p>Increase in visitor numbers to the Municipal Gallery year on year.</p> <p>Increase the use of the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility year on year.</p>	<p>Year on year growth in percentage sales of capacity.</p> <p>Year on year growth in visitor numbers.</p> <p>Year on year growth in arts programme and attendance.</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC:</b> Reducing barriers to arts access for all that live in dlr county.</p>	<p>Social Inclusion targets. Ensuring that dlr is the best residential place to live by 2020 and improving quality of life for marginalised communities/ groups.</p> <p>Deliver Arts Access Grants to support arts programming for Youth and Older person target groups.</p>	<p>Yearly improvement in access to arts programme throughout the county.</p> <p>Number of Arts Access Grants awarded per annum.</p>	<p>Greater access to the arts, and more diverse arts programming, throughout the County.</p> <p>Number of Arts Access Grants and contra funding.</p>

<p><b>PUBLIC:</b> Increase in awareness of dlr brand</p>	<p>Promoting dlr County as the best residential place to live by 2020.</p>	<p>Build e-bulletin subscription list by 18% of the life of this plan.</p> <p>Grow traffic to Arts Office website</p> <p>Establish social media following</p>	<p>Growth of 3% per annum</p> <p>Monitor on a monthly basis. Target 3% increase year on year.</p> <p>Develop social media communications platform.</p>
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Recording studio in session at the Grainstore, dlr's Youth Arts Facility  
Photo Credit: dlr Arts Office



# appendix 1

Key local and national policy documents which inform this development plan:

- › dlr County Development Plan 2016 -2022
- › dlr Corporate Plan 2016- 2019
- › dlr Library Development Plan 2016 -2020
- › dlr Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 - 2021
- › Making Great Art Work - Arts Council's Strategy 2016 - 2025
- › Making Great Art Work - Three Year Plan 2017- 2019
- › A Framework for Collaboration - an agreement between the Arts Council and the County and City Managers Association (CCMA)
- › Culture 2025 - Éire ildánach, A Framework Policy to 2025 (Draft Document)
- › Arts in Education Charter, Department of Education and Skills/  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (2012)
- › Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, 2013-2025
- › Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Public Art Policy, 2012 - 2018

## appendix 2

### **DLR MUNICIPAL GALLERY PROGRAMMING POLICY 2016- 2022**

The aim of the Municipal Gallery programme at dlr Lexlcon is to provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with the arts as creators, spectators and participants. The target audience has been identified as library visitors, dlr residents, tourists/ day visitors and the local arts community.

Each gallery exhibition programme will consist of artworks in the gallery space and a learning programme, planned and designed in tandem. The learning programme will create opportunities for the visitor to explore and engage with the artworks on show. Some examples would include thematically programmed talks, practical workshops and bespoke projects in collaboration with local community groups. The learning programme will offer opportunities for everyone, from beginners through to those with a more in-depth knowledge of the arts.

The programming team for the exhibition programmes will be made up of arts office staff members with specialist arts knowledge. Curators, artists, cultural partners, national cultural institutions, key partner organisations and arts education specialists will be consulted as required.

A diverse annual programme, planned up to 18 months in advance, will seek to engage a range of stakeholders, audiences and communities of interest. The programming will be a mix of established gallery models of commissioned exhibition programmes focusing on the county, its culture and sense of place; touring exhibitions of national interest and open call exhibitions, allowing artists to propose exhibition ideas for peer selection. A public submission competition for open call opportunities will take place annually. These will be widely publicised. A panel of peer selectors (artists, curators and arts office staff) will choose the open call exhibitions. Unsolicited exhibition proposals will not be accepted.

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The Gallery will be a key local arts infrastructural resource for the dlr professional arts community, enabling the Council to provide showcasing, creative partnership, networking, funding and professional development opportunities. The accessible and popular programme aims to be equally attractive to a local resident or tourist to the area. Audience research, gallery attendance figures and continuing consultation with relevant stakeholders will inform further gallery programme policy direction.

The Gallery will operate on a non-commercial basis, and will not be available to hire for exhibitions.

