

Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council



# Galway City Arts Plan

2016-2018

Revision G McM 30th March

The vitality of artistic creativity is necessary for the development of vibrant cultures and the functioning of democratic societies. Artistic expressions and creations are an integral part of cultural life, which entails contesting meanings and revisiting culturally inherited ideas and concepts.

Farida Shaheed,

UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights





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A nighttime photograph of a waterfront scene. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the lights from the buildings and the tent. A white building with a dark roof and two chimneys stands on a bridge or walkway. To the left, a large, illuminated tent structure with a white top and blue sides is visible. The tent is lit up with warm white lights, and a string of lights runs along its top edge. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall atmosphere is serene and festive. A large teal diagonal shape is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# Introduction & Context

Creative City, the Galway City Council Arts Plan is a constituent part of the city's Cultural Sustainability Framework Strategy. In keeping with the Cultural Strategy this Arts Plan envisions the creation of a model of arts excellence for Galway city in aesthetics, curation, innovation and provision, encouraging artistic and community participation, fostering social inclusion, developing economic sustainability and encouraging environmental responsibility. This model will lead to an improved connection between Galway citizens and contemporary creativity leading to an enhanced quality of artistic life and a lasting legacy of pride of place. The interests of Galway people – artists, producers, audiences, participants and communities – are at the heart of this generous vision.

Critically at the centre of our narrative are the arts: they by far the most recognised manifestations of culture; the arts are and always have been the most important and relevant expression of our shared humanity.

Working, locally, nationally, regionally and internationally we will deepen and broaden Galway arts life, delivering a series of strategic actions based on core belief in the importance of creative thought and action for all citizens by nature of their shared humanity.

**A Framework for Collaboration:** An agreement between the Arts Council and the County and City Management Association, reaffirms the key role of the local authority in the promotion and development of the arts locally.

## Extracts:

*'Local government is the elected body with the closest relationship to person and place. Individual local authorities are responsible for the development of their administrative areas as vibrant places in which people can live, work and invest. The arts have a demonstrable impact across the three key pillars of local development: culture, community and the economy. Local government investment in the arts is underpinned by their inherent potential to contribute to these three areas of development.'*

*'A respectful partnership between the Arts Council and local government, and a shared approach where appropriate, to investment and development, will strengthen the arts in Ireland, to the benefit of its people.'*

## Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) and the Arts Plan:

The Galway City Council Arts Plan is a vehicle to assist Galway City to achieve the Strategic Vision for the City as developed through the consultation phase of the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan, 2015-2021.

“That Galway will be a successful City Region with a creative, inclusive and innovative ecosystem in place to ensure its sustainable development into the future.”

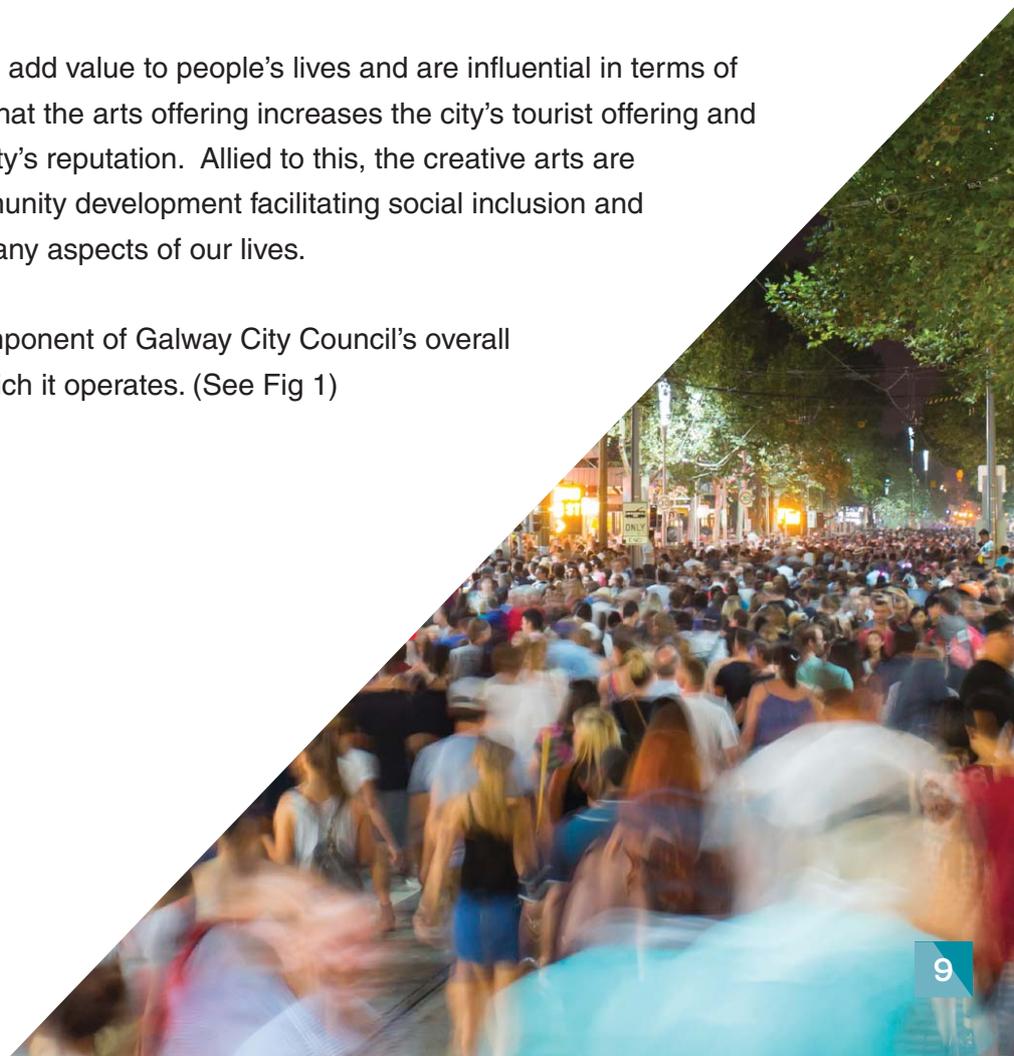
The High Level Goals identified during the LECP preparation process are aligned to the above vision and present an opportunity for Galway City Council’s Arts Plan to in turn align its action plan to these high level goals.

### The high level goals are:

1. A world class, creative city region;
2. An innovative city;
3. An equal and inclusive city;
4. A sustainable, resilient urban environment that is the regional capital of the West;
5. A city that promotes the health and well-being of all its people.

The creative arts industries add value to people’s lives and are influential in terms of economic development in that the arts offering increases the city’s tourist offering and positively impacts on the city’s reputation. Allied to this, the creative arts are influential in terms of community development facilitating social inclusion and contributing positively to many aspects of our lives.

The Arts Plan is a key component of Galway City Council’s overall policy framework within which it operates. (See Fig 1)





# About Galway

BAR

LIVE MUSIC

RESTAURANT

LATE & LIVE

DRINK CORNERS

Going to DUBLIN?  
[www.afringtonotele.com](http://www.afringtonotele.com)  
Tel: 01 804 1101  
Free Irish music &  
Irish dancing  
7 nights

LEONARDO  
EARLY BIRD MENU  
ANY 2 COURSES

Galway is best known as a creative city, recognised nationally and internationally through its outstanding annual calendar of world-class festivals and events and the commitment and skills of its artists and arts organisations and its communities. The physical backdrop of the historic medieval city and its natural beauty make Galway an even more memorable place.

The support and development of community and cultural infrastructure is of central importance to Galway: it contributes to economic and social progress; helps to integrate communities and establish community and cultural networks; enhances the quality of life and well being of its citizens, permanent and occasional, and it attracts significant inward investment.

The city benefits enormously from the thriving , arts, heritage and culture sector, both from the annual programme of internationally recognised festivals that makes such a positive contribution to the local economy and the year-round programme of events created by our arts venues, companies and groups.

The Galway Gaeltacht has a higher proportion of Irish speaking inhabitants than all other Gaeltacht areas in the country combined, the 'súil eile' (another eye) quality of a different system of perception, thought and expression of the living Gaeltacht has deepened and enriched the Galway artistic experience. Galway has the largest population of Gaeltacht areas in the State, all of which represent a rich and unique source of culture including language, music, literature, artworks, crafts, skills, traditions, dance and oral history. The Irish language is a considerable asset and is worth in the region of €136m to the County's economy, with €59m accruing to the city. An Taibhdhearc is the National Irish Language Theatre and sees its role as important in the commissioning and presentation of existing and new work in the Irish language.

## Galway's Strengths

The main artistic strengths of the city can be summarised as:

- Galway has a significant community of established artists in all artforms, many of them celebrated and respected internationally.
- Galway has a significant community of emerging artists in all artforms.
- Galway has an especially strong music profile nationally and internationally, including traditional and choral music, with some of the major names in Irish music living and working in the city.
- Galway has a significant cohort of gifted arts support workers: arts administrators and managers as well as music, theatre and film technicians, exhibition installers and art handlers, marketing and public relations experts, arts writers, critics and researchers.
- Through long exposure to and experience of innovative artistic productions Galway audiences are sophisticated and learned: they understand and appreciate the arts.
- Galway city arts initiatives are playing a key role in promoting cultural engagement of a diverse older population and offer a key way of linking up with national programmes which celebrate creativity amongst older people..
- Young designers, makers, gamers and ICT innovators are a growing constituency in Galway and creating new models of engagement and creative practice across artforms and imaginative genres.
- Druid Theatre, Galway International Arts Festival, Macnas and Baboró are all developing an educational and cultural legacy through their contribution to undergraduate and post-graduate learning programmes and residencies in NUI Galway.
- Galway is a world class cultural destination capable of hosting major international events such as the Galway International Arts Festival and Galway Film Fleadh.
- Galway has a well developed tourism infrastructure
- Galway has an audio-visual, television and film sector that is worth over €72 million to the local economy. There are over 600 people employed in the sector many of whom work in the cluster of audio visual companies in Connemara. Employment in this sector is growing by 24.5% annually.



- Galway has a UNESCO City of Film designation – one of five in the world – which is a recognition of both the film heritage and the training, education and content delivery services provided by the sector in Galway
- The Creative Industries in the west generate €534 million and account for 3.4% of employment in Galway.
- Galway is internationalised recognised as a place people want to live in, work in and visit, which engenders a huge sense of justifiable pride of place amongst its inhabitants, urban and rural.
- Galway is known for its three renowned neighbouring Galway Bay landscapes, described by writer Tim Robinson as 'the divine ABC – Aran Burren, Connemara'.
- Galway has a massive cultural profile and reputation led chiefly by its internationally recognised flagship organisations.
- Galway is part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network
- Galway is a member of the Culture21 Pilot Cities Programme and a candidate for the European Capital of Culture 2020.
- Galway has a comprehensive portfolio of year-round programming complemented by a notable annual sequence of arts themed festivals
- The National University of Ireland Galway, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology and Galway Technical Institute amongst others offer a wide range of undergraduate, post-graduate and short-term courses in the creative sectors including significant cultural management courses and research opportunities, producing new generations of sophisticated arts managers. NUI Galway has developed a three year Creative Momentum programme that aims to support the creative industry sector in Europe's northern edge.
- Galway is rich in cultural heritage both in the built and natural environment. The city centre has retained its medieval fabric and scale and presents a walkable city with a coherent core.
- Galway City Museum has one of the highest visitor numbers in the country for free admission attractions outside the capital with over 160,000 visitors annually
- Galway has a thriving sector in indigenous sailing boat design and building, featuring unique Galway designs and craftsmanship that showcase boats for sea, river and lake, linking imaginatively with the allied artforms of music, dance, sculpture and film.



# Vision Statement, Priorities and Strategic Aims

## Vision Statement:

The arts are at the heart of life in Galway. The arts are pivotal to all aspects of our development as a city. Our ambition is to drive and deliver an arts plan that transforms Galway into a working model of sustainability, community participation, best practice and world class arts and creative experiences.

## Priorities

**These priorities have informed the strategic aims of the arts plan:**

- Excellence
- Cultural Rights
- Children & Youth
- Health & wellbeing
- Hubs and collectives
- Participation
- Access and engagement
- Capacity Building

### 1. Excellence

**Strategic Aim:** Galway has long boasted a number of remarkable artists, organisations and producers. The Arts Plan will foster excellence as a core belief for all arts work within the city, and strive towards the conditions where excellence can prevail.

### 2. Cultural Rights

**Strategic Aim:** Galway City Council's Arts Plan supports and endorses the individual's right to freedom of artistic expression and creativity. The aims, objectives and actions of the plan will enable individuals and groups to develop and express their intrinsic humanity in a caring and creative city that respects the cultural rights of all citizens.

### 3. Children and Youth

**Strategic Aim:** The Arts Plan will strive to provide for meaningful arts engagement for the children and young people of the city.

### 4. Health and Wellbeing

**Strategic Aim:** The Arts Plan will engage with the discrete areas of arts and health and arts and disability as key areas of work.

### 5. Hubs and Collectives

**Strategic Aim:** The Arts Plan will foster and support the maintenance of existing hubs and collectives and encourage the development of new examples across and within the artforms, in both physical and virtual manifestations.

## 6. Participation

**Strategic Aim:** Participation in creative arts activity is a basic cultural right. The arts plan will strive to provide all Galway citizens with the opportunity to become actively and meaningfully involved in the arts, across professional, amateur or community contexts.

## 7. Access and Engagement

**Strategic Aim:** The Arts Plan will improve access to the arts within the city. It will address issues of exclusion through disability, financial means, geographic remoteness or other sources of disadvantage. It will encourage all citizens to engage meaningfully with contemporary artistic activity, whether as audiences or participants.

## 8. Capacity Building

**Strategic Aim:** The Arts Plan recognises the importance of capacity building, in developing the skills and knowledge of Galway's cohort of artists, in facilitating artists to develop their practices, in encouraging arts organisations to build audiences across ages and abilities and to develop a physical infrastructure that will enable them to grow and provide better facilities for creation of work and audience participation and involvement.



## Purpose of Galway City Council's Arts Office:

The creative industries have a proven impact on enhancing Quality of Life which in turn increases Galway's attractiveness as a vibrant and desirable place to live, work and invest. The artistic offering impacts positively on the key pillars of local development through culture, community and the economy.

Reflecting the integral role of local government in the development of, and investment in the arts at a local level, Galway City Council's Arts Office is charged with developing and implementing actions which impact positively on the arts sector and thereby positively on Galway City generally.

Galway City Council's Arts Office works in partnership with local arts organisations and local communities to create arts experiences that have meaningful impacts on individuals, communities and our city as whole.

## Purpose of Galway City Council's Art Plan

The Arts Plan, Creative City, 2016–18 is the main engine of Galway's investment in the arts. A ground-plan for progress, defining our aims and setting out our actions, it is predicated on fulfilling the relevant aims and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for Galway, 2016 – 2025 and it actively supports the processes and actions around Galway's bid for European Capital of Culture 2020.

The methodology for this Arts Plan incorporates the Cultural Strategy's research, mapping and consultation as its baseline, reflecting at all times the priorities and key policy areas agreed by those consulted. To realise through the vision described in its corporate plans of 'continuing to make Galway an attractive, vibrant and proud city and county in which to live work and visit', and in the Local Economic and Community Plan as highlighted above, the City Council and its partners will focus on strategies and actions in three inter-related categories:

### PEOPLE

workforce, quality of life and social issues

### PLACE

physical environment  
(infrastructure, amenities, buildings and planning)

### PROCESS

ease of doing businesses  
(city processes, programmes and procedures)

### In summary this plan seeks:

- To foster arts innovation in all its forms through an understanding of the artistic and cultural needs and priorities in Galway.
- To advocate for the benefits of the arts for the citizens of Galway
- To guarantee that these citizens, permanent and transitory, young and old, have access to the resources they need freedom to pursue their connections with the arts at all stages of their lives.
- To contribute to a carefully constructed economic environment that fosters employment opportunities for the arts sector.
- To consider artistic forms in the context of science and technology and their contributions to aesthetics, to the local economy, to plurality and to citizenship-building.
- To recommend coherent and practical delivery mechanisms to facilitate the arts implementation plan including infrastructural development.
- To treasure, enhance and develop new responses to Galway's distinctive arts heritage including its unique Irish language experience.

Dovetailing with Galway's Cultural Strategy this plan sets out a three year approach for Galway 2016 - 2018. This arts vision will be delivered with a range of partners and collaborators in a sequence of three-year cycles, with incorporated additional review and evaluation pauses.

The aim of this strategy is to highlight the contribution of the arts to the sustainable development of Galway. In this pursuit, everybody matters.

The definition of the arts in this document is based on The Arts Act 2003 which states:

' "arts" means any creative or interpretative expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and includes, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture, and includes any medium when used for those purposes.'

This Arts Plan for Galway City will support emerging and established artists and producers and offer opportunities for artistic development and growth, employment, improved population health through arts and health, improved participation and engagement, increased knowledge, learning and enjoyment and a greater sense of ownership and involvement in the aesthetic life of the city.





# Challenges and opportunities

## Challenges and opportunities

- To recognise the major contribution artists and producers make to Galway life and to provide supports for them to live, work and develop sustainable careers here.
- To work with our artists and producers to enable, facilitate and encourage greater individual and collective participation in Galway's artistic life.
- To establish learning and knowledge transfer networks and community fora to explore ideas, collaborations and networks for arts excellence in innovation, production, learning and development.
- To create and manage realistic and effective support for shared practices, collaborations and networking opportunities within arts and allied communities.
- To collaborate with the arts sector to develop training and mentoring programmes and opportunities for future capacity building.
- To implement an improved cohesive digital platform and online presence for the city's artists, artworkers, communities and services and improved online communication for participants and users.
- To recognise the need for increased international partnerships which will promote Galway abroad and increase arts opportunities at home.
- To understand the positive impact of increased legibility, visibility and coherent branding of Galway's arts events and projects on all approaches to and in the city and county and online.
- To identify and support the formation in communities of creative hubs which encourage co-operation and shared practices across all areas of cultural expression.
- To encourage innovative artist-led collaborative practice in art projects..
- To identify effective and innovative arts services that support mental and physical health.
- To understand the needs of children, young people and youth culture and the increasing supports and services necessary to support their arts experience and participation.
- To work towards provision, participation and engagement with the city's older population through collaborative and partnership arts projects.
- To provide new opportunities for intergenerational engagement in the arts.

- To encourage better understanding of intercultural issues in and through the arts.
- To increase participation levels in all aspects of the city's arts and life.
- To evaluate current consultation methods practised by local authorities and future potential role of initiatives such as those developed during the city's bid for European Capital of Culture 2020.
- To support support online communities across the full range of arts expression and as appropriate, to tie-in with digital frameworks and branding platforms.
- To contribute tot he management of all aspects of contemporary creative arts in the city including the commitment to the Pilot Cities programme of work.
- To build on the UNESCO City of Film designation by investigating and implementing realistic measures that will support excellence, employment and artform development in Galway's existing audiovisual infrastructure.
- To support Galway's bid for the European Capital of Culture 2020; and other appropriate arts-related designations.
- To support the provision of effective platforms for discussions on issues such as funding, access, development, markets, collaboration and other relevant topics.
- To contribute within the arts to increased cultural, social and economic learning from innovative European and international partnerships.
- To foster the Irish language as part of Galway's living arts identity and psychology.







# Arts Action Plan

The following tables outlines the work programme for the Arts Office for the next 3 years that will ensure that the priorities and strategic aims identified are achieved.

### **7.1 Engagement:** Artists, Curators, Productions, Artists, Audiences, Communities

#### **Aim:**

- (a) Artists are encouraged and supported to engage creatively in the making of strong diverse and innovative work.
- (b) To catalyse communities, artists, audience to connect creatively.

#### **Objective:**

- (a) Artists are valued members of the Galway public who add value to the city in their work as creators, mentors and educators. We wish to facilitate a healthy arts ecology prioritising the development of creative experiences, relationships and partnerships between artists, curators and producers.
- (b) To bring Galway communities of interest into meaningful experiences of the arts through participation and active audience engagement, including amateur and socially engage arts. To improve co-existence and quality of life, increasing the creative and critical capacity of all citizens and to contribute collectively to the challenges facing our city.

## Arts Action Plan

	ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
1	<p>We will seek to create opportunities for mentorships, internships and work experience, with a particular focus on marginalised communities; We will work closely with education, employment and training to create career pathways in the arts and arts management.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Creation of artform residencies both city-wide and with specific communities.</b></p>	GCC Arts Office	Annual	Number of Residencies Number of Placements of artists and arts workers by arts office in local communities.
2	<p>We will continue to invest in emerging artist opportunities and improve and develop the individual artist bursary programme, including the provision of specialist awards.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Publish bursary award scheme criteria. Advertise and invite artists to apply.</b></p>	GCC Arts Office	Annual	Number of Bursary Awards made Total financial amount of bursary awards.
3	<p>Models of best practice will be adopted when Galway City Council engages and collaborates with artists including fair payment, contract agreements, commission agreements, copyright and peer selection processes.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Devise, in consultation with artists and artist representative associations, sample contracts. Publish sample contracts</b></p>	GCC Arts Office	By end of 2016	Publication of sample contracts. Total number of contracts agreed with artists.
4	<p>We will seek to develop engagement across City Council departments, programming and facilities to enable the participation of marginalised communities with a focus on artists and audiences with disability and new communities.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Create working groups comprising Arts Officer, Social Inclusion Officer, Housing Estate Liaison Officers and Traveller Accommodation Programme Manager. Devise programme</b></p>	GCC Arts Office	By end 2016 group created. Programme devised by mid 2017	Creation of working group of AO/ SIO/ HELO/ TAP MGR. - Programme in place
5	<p>Galway City Arts Office will create and manage a Scribhneor Conaithe/ Writer in Residence Literature Programme, implementing creative writing residencies in Irish and English.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Writers in residence in place. Programme of engagement with local groups in place</b></p>	GCC Arts Office	Annual	Writers in residence in place. Programme of engagement with local groups in place

## Arts Action Plan

	ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
6	<p>Galway City Arts Office in partnership with NUI Galway will establish a Traditional Music Group Residency.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Trad. group residency established</b></p>	GCC Arts Office and NUIG	2/3 Years	Residency in place. Public Events programme across city.
7	<p>Galway City Arts Office will create a Galway City Youth Arts Programme</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create Youth Arts Programme</b></p>	GCC AO and working group	3 years	Programme year 1 defined. Outputs Years 2 and 3.
8	<p>Galway City Arts Office Youth Arts participation programme will reimagine current relationships and create new partnerships (and in particular will work with Galway Arts Centre, Red Bird Youth Collective, Galway Youth Theatre, Galway Youth Arts Alliance and Westside Arts Festival). The programme will feature contemporary models of best practice, experienced in a safe environment.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create Youth Arts Programme</b></p>	Galway AO with Galway Arts Centre, Red Bird Youth Collective, Galway Youth Theatre, Galway Youth Arts Alliance and Westside Arts Festival	3 years	Programme in place Number of organisations involved. Number of contact hours with target group.
9	<p>The Arts Office will create and programme a Childrens' Writer in Residence position</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create Childrens' Writer programme</b></p>	GCC AO, Baboró, Branar Theatre Company and Galway Library Service	3 years	Residency in place. Number of contact hours with target group.
10	<p>Galway City Arts Office will create a new youth and public theatre programme in the East Ward of Galway City.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create theatre programme for young people in Doughiska/Ballybane/Roscam areas</b></p>	GCC AO, GYAA, GYT and Branar	By mid 2017	Programme in place. Number of contact hours with target group.
11	<p>Arts and Health / Arts and Disability:</p> <p>Working within the two disciplines of Arts and Health and Arts and Disability as distinct areas aligned with national practice it is intended that the Arts Office of Galway City Council will create, continue (as appropriate) and develop its separate Arts and Health and Arts and Disability Programme strands to work in partnership with Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust, Galway Arts Centre's Burning Bright Programme, Arts Disability Ireland and other relevant agencies.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Further develop Arts &amp; Disability and Arts &amp; Health projects</b></p>	GCC AO, GUHAT, GACBBP and ADI	Annual	Programmes in place end year 1. Outputs defined.

## Arts Action Plan

ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
<p><b>12</b> Socially Engaged Art / Collaborative Practice:</p> <p>Galway City Council will seek to create a new funding strand of Socially Engaged Art. Through socially engaged arts – where artist-led projects inter-act meaningfully and profoundly with the everyday lives of the citizens, Galway City Arts Office will maximise the creative conversations of art production and capacity building.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create working group comprising Arts Officer, Social Inclusion Officer, Housing Estate Liaison Officers and Traveller Accommodation Programme Manager.</b></p> <p><b>Devise programme</b></p>	GCC internal and community	End Year 2	Link with 4 above.
<p><b>13</b> Culture Night in September offers the opportunity for Galway artists and arts organisations to engage with new audiences and new communities of interest.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Devise, plan and run Culture Night.</b></p>	Arts Office, DAHG, local artists and arts organisations	September of each year	Number of events. Numbers attending each event.



## 7.2 Public Sphere

### Aim:

Galway City Council will benefit significantly from a policy that takes risks, breaks new ground and challenges perceptions about public art practice. We wish to support artists in presenting work in the public arena

### Objective:

We will support artists who work within the public realm, to interact with citizens and communities in new and surprising ways.

## Public Sphere Actions

PUBLIC SPHERE ACTIONS	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
<p>1 We will provide a coordination function between the range of Council departments related to culture in the public arena.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Engage with Public Realm Strategy group in GCC.</b></p>	<p>Across departments.</p>	<p>Commence by end 2016</p>	<p>Public Realm Strategy.</p>
<p>2 We will continue to fund development and presentation of work in the public realm, including work created under the Per Cent for Art initiative and similar initiatives.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Design and develop a Public Art policy for Galway City Council</b> <b>Create a Public Art Working Group for in-house Per Cent for Art projects.</b></p>	<p>Arts Office and appropriate GCC departments incl. Roads, Parks, Housing, etc.</p>	<p>Commence by end 2016</p>	<p>Fully devised public art policy and operational guidelines.</p>
<p>We will establish a formal city visual art collection for public display and programming.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Publish online a catalogue of GCC collection</b></p>	<p>Arts Officer</p>	<p>By end 2016</p>	<p>Online catalogue available</p>

## 7.2 Creative Spaces

### Aim:

To support the lives and careers of Galway City artists as they live in and work in, exhibit, perform, research, create and produce art in our city. To invite creators and artists to commit themselves to the city.

### Objective:

To maintain Galway's long-established and hard-won reputation as a city where artists want to live and work, Galway City Council will act as catalyst for a multiplicity and variety of spaces in the city, including artist-managed spaces, and privately and publicly-owned and run spaces, where artists are able to work, perform and exhibit and live in the city. Arts management which is essential to a growing arts sector, also requires appropriate space.

## Creative Spaces Actions

	CREATIVE SPACES ACTIONS	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
1	<p>We will support and seek to enable affordable, secure and appropriate working spaces for artists, arts workers and other cultural workers.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	Audit of production space.
2	<p>We will encourage the repurposing of vacant and privately-owned properties to provide affordable working spaces for artists and encourage access to under-utilised spaces in the city and develop strategies to secure more of these spaces for artists.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	Policy in relation to creation and support of hubs.
3	<p>City facilities, such as public centres and libraries will continue to be proofed for their suitability for arts use based on identified local needs</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b> <b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	Number of hubs created.

## 7.4 City Arts Office Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes

### Aim:

To support, facilitate and encourage active participation in the arts by communities and artists.

### Objective:

To manage the administration of Galway City Council funding under the Arts Act and to programme the Arts Office programmes.

## Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes

	Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes Actions	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
1	<p>Through its funding and the advice and support mechanisms of the Arts Office, Galway City Council will stimulate and support standards of excellence in the arts in Galway City.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of revised funding scheme reflecting the priority aims of the cultural strategy.</b></p>	SPC, SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	In time for 2017 round of funding	Revised funding scheme for - arts grants - residencies - bursaries.
2	<p>Funding will reflect good principles of diversity, plurality, transparency and responsibility.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of revised funding scheme reflecting the priority aims of the cultural strategy.</b></p>	SPC, SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer.	In time for 2017 round of funding	Clearly defined open and transparent application procedures.
3	<p>The City Council will offer strategic and defined strands of funding, giving clients clarity in the grant-making process. Funding will be assessed and awarded according to the objectives of the City's strategic planning.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of revised funding scheme reflecting the priority aims of the cultural strategy.</b></p> <p><b>Continue to utilise an Arts Working Group that outlines policy directions, clearly articulating funding decisions and rationales.</b></p>	SPC, SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	In time for 2017 round of funding	Assessment methodologies. Goal-setting. Role of arts working group.
4	<p>We will continue the Council's waiver of rates for buildings used for non-commercial arts, following best practice in nurturing creativity.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Continue to support the Arts Waiver Scheme</b></p>	GCC AO and Finance	Annual	Number of properties. Amount waived.

## Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes

	Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes Actions	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
5	<p>The management of city facilities such as public centres will be assisted by the Arts Office to develop their own culture strategies with particular emphasis on the role of creative hubs in proactively fostering creativity in their buildings.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	See creative space 2.
6	<p>The management of city facilities such as public centres will be assisted by the Arts Office to develop their own culture strategies with particular emphasis on the role of creative hubs in proactively fostering creativity in their buildings.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	See creative space 2.
7	<p>Research, such as needs audit and analysis will be commissioned as a case-making or feasibility tool for infrastructural development</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Development of Creative Hubs concepts from Cultural Strategy and relevant sub-actions.</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer	Over life of plan	See creative space 1.
8	<p>We will continue to develop linkages with the third level institutions based in Galway</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create a number of strategic and operational actions with NUI, Galway &amp; GMIT</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer, NUI, Galway & GMIT	Over life of plan	<p>Establishment of traditional music group with NUI, Galway.</p> <p>Development of at least one key joint - action with CCAM in GMIT</p>
9	<p>We will encourage partnership and engagement with national resource agencies in relation to arts provision for coherence of planning and provision.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create a number of strategic and operational actions with Arts Council of Ireland, DAHG, Culture Ireland and others.</b></p> <p><b>Continue to fund and develop involvement with UNESCO City of Film.</b></p> <p><b>Develop engagement with UNESCO Creative Cities Network.</b></p> <p><b>Develop full action programme under Culture 21 Pilot Cities Programme</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer, Arts Council, DAHG & Culture Ireland, UNESCO City of Film, UCLG & CAE	Over life of plan	<p>Actions arising from new National Cultural Strategy.</p> <p>Action Plan of City of Film.</p> <p>Action Plan of Culture 21 Pilot Cities</p> <p>Establishment of Stakeholder Group under Culture 21.</p>

## Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes

Funding, Networks, Partnerships and Programmes Actions	TO BE DELIVERED BY	TIMESCALE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
<p>10</p> <p>We will develop a joint programme with the Westside Arts Festival, embracing youth and adult creativity.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Joint programme with Westside Arts Festival</b></p>	GCC and WAF	By Summer 2016 and each year thereafter.	Actions finalised under joint programme. Numbers involved in projects.
<p>11</p> <p>Galway City Arts Office will create a new youth and public theatre programme in the East Ward of Galway City.</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Create theatre programme for young people in Doughiska/Ballybane/Roscam areas</b></p>	GCC AO, GYAA, GYT and Branar	By mid 2017	Programme in place. Number of contact hours with target group.
<p>12</p> <p>The Arts Office will contribute proactively to the implementation of Galway's cultural obligations and commitments including those under UNESCO Creative Cities, Agenda 21 for Culture, and the European Union</p> <p><b>Key Action:</b></p> <p><b>Continue to fund and develop involvement with UNESCO City of Film.</b></p> <p><b>Develop engagement with UNESCO Creative Cities Network.</b></p> <p><b>Develop full action programme under Culture 21 Pilot Cities Programme</b></p>	SEO, Arts & Culture & Arts Officer, Arts Council, DAHG & Culture Ireland, UNESCO City of Film, UCLG & CAE	Over life of plan	<p>Actions arising from new National Cultural Strategy.</p> <p>Action Plan of City of Film.</p> <p>Action Plan of Culture 21 Pilot Cities</p> <p>Establishment of Stakeholder Group under Culture 21.</p>

## Implementation, Monitoring and Review

Galway City Council's Arts Office is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the actions set out in this plan.

The Arts Officer, working collaboratively with all stakeholders, internally in the City Council, local external stakeholders and national stakeholder interests, will ensure that the actions identified in this plan that are required in order to achieve our strategic priorities are met.

The key performance indicators which have been identified as the appropriate metrics for performance management and progress reports will be prepared by the Arts Officer to the Senior Management Team in the Council and to the elected members on a structured basis over the 3 year period of the plan.

- Progress Reports to Senior Management Team on a quarterly basis.
- Progress Reports to the elected members on a bi-annual basis.

