



# ***A Shared Vision for Waterford Arts***

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~~Draft~~ **Waterford City and County Arts Strategy  
2016-2021**

**August 2016 - PASSED BY COUNCIL 08/09/2016**

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## FOREWORD

Growing up in Waterford in the Nineties and in the first decades of the new century, I feel privileged that my formative years coincided with what has been an important era for the arts in Waterford City and County. As a Councillor and more recently as Mayor, I am proud that Waterford City and County has played a significant role in encouraging and supporting a climate where our citizens have access to artistic events of the highest standard and where our artists are enabled to create and present their work in their own place.

Prior to the amalgamation of Waterford City and County Councils in 2014, strategies for arts provision were informed by separate Arts Plans in the City and County. The amalgamation has now created the opportunity for an overall Waterford City and County Arts Strategy which will guide the Council's arts policies and priorities for the period, 2016-2021.

The Strategy has been informed by previous City and County Arts Plans and has looked to our citizens for advice and inspiration. Three public meetings, numerous one-to-one conversations, stakeholder involvement and an open call for submissions have ensured that the Council's arts strategy for the coming years will be enriched by the experience and aspirations of our artistic community and by the audiences they serve.

The Strategy will cause us to look differently at the way we view the Arts. It will help all areas of the Council to utilise the Arts as an agent of change for the betterment of all its citizens. It will promote arts values of creative inclusiveness and accessibility in how the Council operates and it will enable artists and arts organisations (professional and amateur) to redefine their roles as creative inspirers to present and future generations.

Mayor Adam Wyse

Waterford City & County Council

## INTRODUCTION

*A Shared Vision for Waterford Arts* outlines Waterford City and County Council's Strategy for arts provision for the period 2016-2021.

Under the Arts Act 2003, Local Authorities are charged with preparing and implementing plans for the development of the arts within their functional area. With both the previous City and County Arts Plans nearing their end dates, the amalgamation of Waterford City and County Council has brought the opportunity to review urban and rural arts provision and to address perceived gaps in current provision across the entire city and county.

The Strategy has emerged following extensive public consultation with artists, arts organisations and the wider community. It has been informed by comprehensive local, regional and national research and analysis undertaken our Arts Officers, Conor Nolan and Margaret Organ.

The Strategy is also by informed other national and regional strategies such as the "Better Together" Regional Cultural Strategy for the Three Sisters. Although the Three Sisters European Capital of Culture 2020 bid was not successful, the agenda which drove our application will continue to inform and enrich Waterford City and County Council's perspective on arts provision in the years ahead. That agenda pioneers a new model of culture-led regional partnership and investment, connecting urban and rural areas and establishing shared approaches to development. In particular, the Regional Cultural Strategy is underpinned by a determination to integrate arts and culture into the wider social and economic development of the South East Region. By definition, *A Shared Vision for Waterford Arts* is primarily focused on arts provision within Waterford City and County but the principle of positioning cultural activity as a key player in the drive for social and economic progress will guide our approach to arts provision in the years ahead.

Despite an extremely challenging economic climate, Waterford City and County Council has maintained its commitment to supporting our artists and arts organisations and to making the arts, in all its forms, accessible to all our citizens. *A Shared Vision for Waterford Arts* renews and strengthens that commitment and I am confident that the Strategy will not only serve those interested and involved with the arts but will also enhance the quality of life for all of Waterford's citizens. The Strategy will feed positively into the Council plans for the present and near future and will act as a catalyst for creative change for our region.

Michael Walsh  
Chief Executive  
Waterford City & County Council

# VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

## Our Vision

### *Waterford – the Creative County*

#### **Mission Statement**

Waterford City and County Council will work to integrate the Arts into all aspects of the community to support the aim of making Waterford City and County a place where people want to work, live and visit.

#### **Waterford Arts - The Context**

The Arts in Waterford have a long and vibrant history which today can be seen through the achievements of a thriving and active arts and cultural sector. Waterford Local Authorities embarked upon a commitment to deliver the Arts as a service to the whole community with the appointment of the first Arts Officer in the City in 1995, and the appointment of the first Arts Officer in the County in 1996. Since then, developments in arts support and provision have grown incrementally.

2014 saw the amalgamation of Waterford City Council and Waterford County Council into a new single authority and meant that the administrative and functional operations of the Arts Services needed to be amalgamated within this structure. This has created the opportunity for the development of a new Arts Strategy for Waterford City and County Council 2016-2021<sup>1</sup> and, in turn, delivers the prospect of revitalising, re-energising and facilitating a connectivity and dynamism between City and County, Urban and Rural Communities, Professional and Non-professional arts engagement, towards a shared vision for Waterford arts into the future.

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<sup>1</sup> Full details of the public consultation, research process and the Waterford and National context can be found in the Appendices section

## OUR VALUES

- **Value** – All strategic decision-making will aim to achieve high quality arts provision and in the establishment of the support criteria across all art forms
- **Sharing** – All strategic decision-making will aim to support access and inclusion to the arts across all communities, supporting both professional and non-professional arts practice<sup>2</sup>
- **Elevating** - All strategic decision making will aim to ensure that arts provision and support defines, celebrates and elevates the cultural identity of Waterford

The primary functions of the Arts Service to be pursued through the life of this Arts Strategy can be described as follows:

- To provide fully inclusive access to the Arts to all social and community groupings and to a wide audience base and across the whole of the county
- To value, encourage and acknowledge the creativity and innovation of individual artists and arts organisations
- To provide high standards of arts provision and ensure best practice in policy decisions.
- To recognise and acknowledge the cultural and artistic identity of the locality and foster this both within and beyond the borders of County Waterford

The Arts Service is also committed to the tenets of the Regional Cultural Strategy "Better Together" – the strategy<sup>3</sup> developed by, and to encompass, Counties Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford. Its aims are:

- Promoting and supporting sustainable cultural development across the region
- Investing in the expression of and engagement with culture and creativity through our people, places and programmes
- Working with local, national and international partners to develop our cultural capacity and potential for collaboration
- Creating opportunities for those operating in the cultural and creative sectors to fulfill their potential

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<sup>2</sup> Professional artists being defined for the purpose of the study as:

1. Individuals active in pursuing a career as an artist – i.e. who make or attempt to make a living from arts work and who are the principal personnel in the creative process resulting in a work of art;
2. Individuals who view arts work as their main profession or career (even if not their main source of income, and regardless of their current employment status);
3. Individuals working or pursuing work in artform areas supported by The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon (Republic of Ireland), whether or not their specific work has been grant-aided
4. Individuals who hold a third-level or equivalent qualification in Art from a Nationally recognised College, or have had work accepted from a publisher (not-self-publication), work exhibited / performed at a state-owned/run venue

Definitions of professional arts 1-4, for the purposes of this document have been cited from, the Arts Council of Ireland publication, *The Living and Working Conditions of Artists in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland* 2010 p.17]

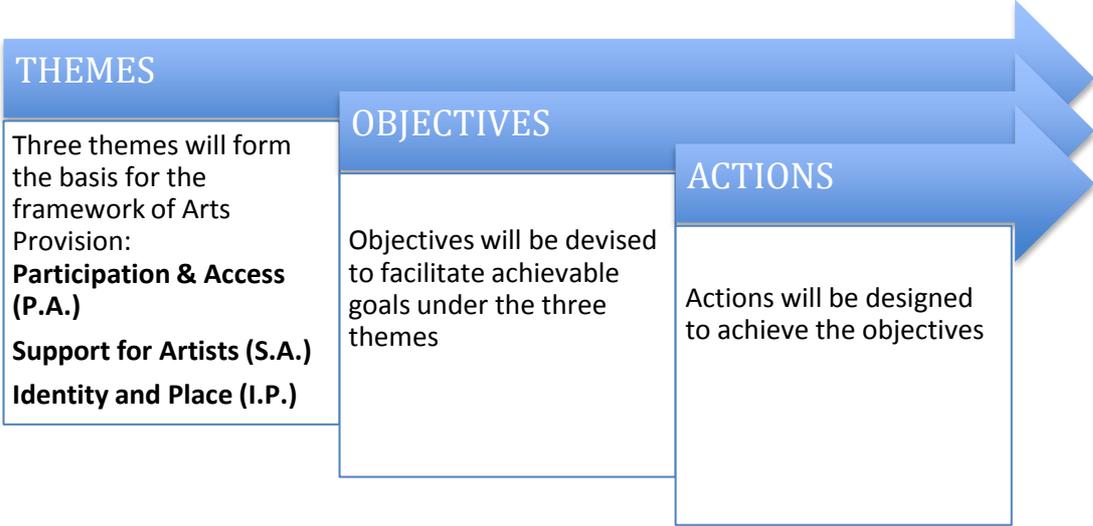
<sup>3</sup> 'Better Together': *The Three Sisters Regional Cultural Strategy 2016 – 2025* (2016)

# THEMED PRIORITIES

## Implementation

The following section outlines how the Arts Strategy will be implemented in Waterford. The purpose of the Strategy is to categorise the operations of the Arts Service under three themed areas.

Over the duration of the Strategy and in line with a public consultation process, the Arts Service will develop a number of achievable objectives, which will be addressed by a number of specific actions, all of which will fall under the principal themes.



## Themes

**PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS:** To strive for maximum public engagement and full access to the arts across all sectors of society and to all locations, with a focus on urban and rural connectivity across the county.

**SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS:** To support artists, arts organisations, arts venues and dedicated arts festivals to maximise their capacity and capability.

**IDENTITY AND PLACE:** To express the cultural value and vibrancy of Waterford, celebrating and promoting Waterford’s Cultural Infrastructure and the Cultural Identity of its people.

# OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

## PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS

- Enable all sectors of the community to engage with and participate in high quality arts provision.
- Develop strategies that will address variances and encourage connectivity between rural and urban, professional and non-professional provision in the arts.
- Ensure maximum potential of the arts Information and advisory services.
- Carry out review of all Arts Service funding structures.

## SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS

- Support for artists in the pursuit of their profession and with the ambition to live and work in Waterford City and County.
- Support for artists to develop their creative practice, develop new work and encourage the promotion of new art forms currently not experienced or practiced in the county.
- Support for artists by providing a comprehensive Information Service.
- Support arts organisations, venues and dedicated arts festivals in County Waterford.

## IDENTITY & PLACE

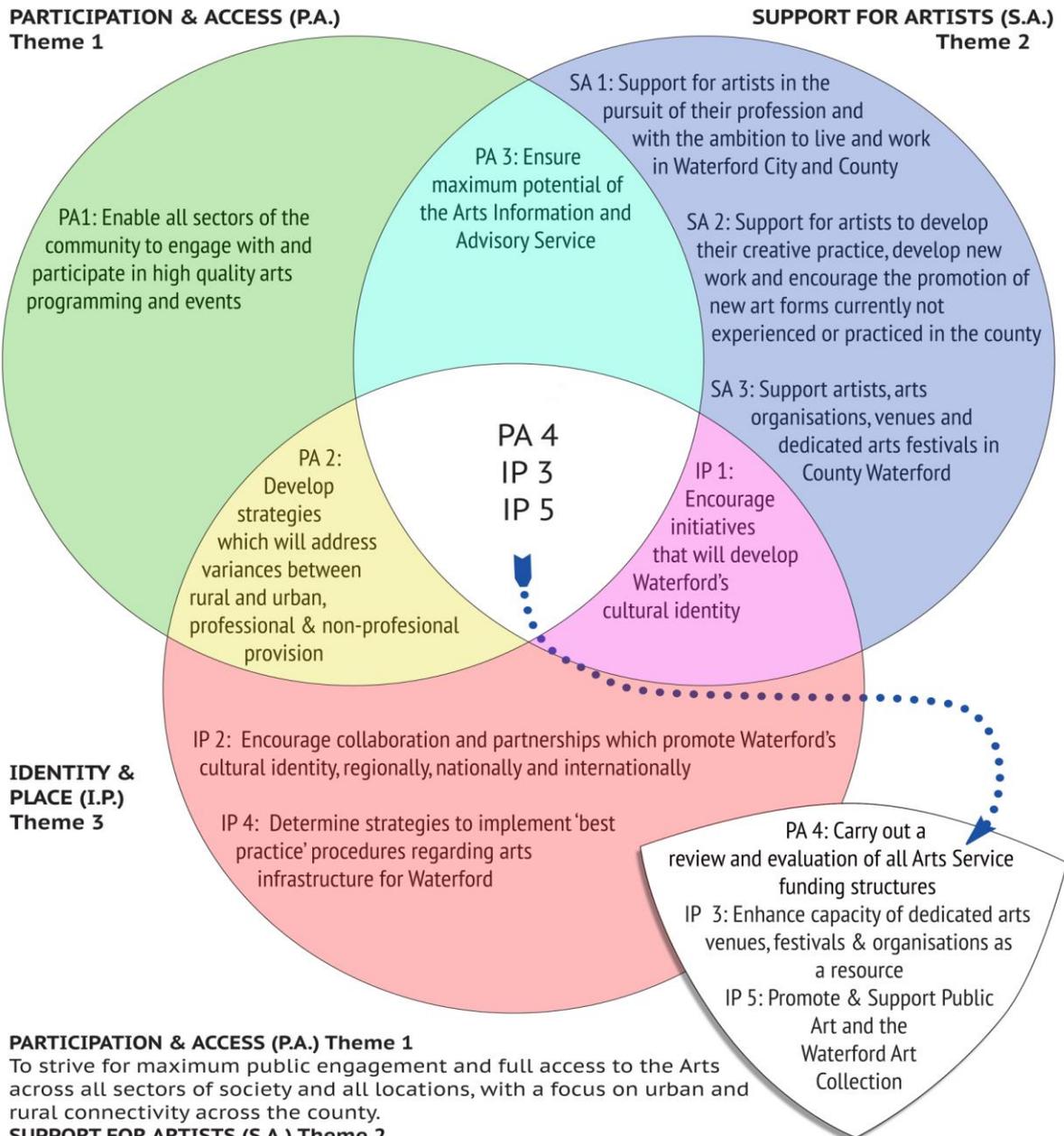
- Encourage initiatives that will develop Waterford’s cultural identity locally and promote cultural integration and exchange.
- Encourage collaboration and partnerships which promote Waterford’s cultural identity, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- Enhance capacity of Arts Venues, Dedicated Arts Festivals and Arts Organisation as the counties infrastructural arts resource.
- Determine strategies regarding arts infrastructure for Waterford.
- Promote and support Public Art and the Waterford Art Collection.

The goal of the Strategy is to carry out the following actions, subject to available resources and within achievable timeframes outlined below.



# OBJECTIVES

under the Waterford City and County Arts Strategy



**PARTICIPATION & ACCESS (P.A.) Theme 1**

To strive for maximum public engagement and full access to the Arts across all sectors of society and all locations, with a focus on urban and rural connectivity across the county.

**SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS (S.A.) Theme 2**

To support artists, arts organisations, arts venues and dedicated arts festivals to maximize their capacity and capability.

**IDENTITY & PLACE (I.P.) Theme 3**

Expresses the cultural value and vibrancy of Waterford, celebrating and promoting Waterford's Cultural Infrastructure and the Cultural Identity of its people. Developing a model of cultural fusion, regionally, nationally and internationally.

(Note: some of the details in the diagram are abbreviated - see pages 11-17 for full details)

# ACTIONS

under the Waterford City and County Arts Strategy

## PARTICIPATION & ACCESS (P.A.) Theme 1

- Develop and deliver quality arts programming across the county, including engagement with national arts projects
- Prioritise new audiences through programming
- Offer support to Dedicated Arts Venues and Festivals to deliver quality arts programming
- Develop new Youth Arts and Youth Education initiatives
- Review Arts Service Partnerships
- Support professional ambitions of voluntary arts & community arts groups
- Explore funding streams for non professional arts sector
- Develop Mentoring opportunities between professional and non-professional groups
- Develop an 'What's On' app in conjunction with a Waterford Arts Website
- Ensure information on grants is accessible

## SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS (S.A.) Theme 2

- Continue Artlinks programmes
- Develop opportunities for artists with Local Authority initiatives
- Develop Artist-to-Artist networks
- Provide advice for artists to help set-up Studio/Workspaces
- Shadowing schemes for artists
- Artists engaged by arts service to be paid as per National Payment Guidelines
- Explore opportunities to allow time for artists to develop and produce new work
- Support the development of new artforms and practices
- Support Audiences for new art forms
- Provide Arts information and advice
- Review existing arts Information and advisory services
- Promote the work of Waterford artists on-line
- Support audience development initiatives

## IDENTITY & PLACE (I.P.) Theme 3

- Acknowledge our Gaeltacht status and promoting the Irish language and Traditional Arts
  - International arts conference around the notion of Identity and Place
- Examine supports for newly established venues and dedicated Arts festivals
  - Develop Venues Network Group/Hub to stimulate connectivity, collaboration and sharing
- Develop strategies that maximise usage of local authority owned venues
  - Commission an Arts Infrastructure Research Report
- Develop a Public Art Policy and Waterford Art Collection policy
- Examine the feasibility of developing a new dedicated venue for the Waterford Art Collection

- Health and Wellbeing initiatives to develop collaborative partnerships through local artists
- Develop a full service online presence that includes information, advice, profiles, Artist's gallery page, database and documentation
- Develop and initiate a Rural Arts Scheme

- Reward arts ventures for collaborative & outward looking policies
  - Partnership with regional, national & international agencies
  - Support Dedicated Arts Venues & Arts Festivals
  - Investigate the development of a large-scale multi-media arts venue & 'making space'
- A viable Film Location
  - Develop ArtLinks partnerships
  - Partner International Arts Residencies
  - Up-skilling and capacity building.
  - Access Per Cent for Art training

## **PARTICIPATION & ACCESS (P.A.) Theme 1**

**To strive for maximum public engagement and full access to the Arts across all sectors of society and all locations, with a focus on urban and rural connectivity across the county.**

**Objective 1 Enable all sectors of the community to engage with and participate in high quality arts programming and events.**

### **ACTION Short term**

- P.A.1.1 To develop and deliver quality arts programming acknowledging all art forms across the county, including engagement with national arts projects; prioritise the development of new audiences through quality arts programming.
- P.A.1.2 Offer support to Arts Venues and Dedicated Arts Festivals to deliver quality arts programming acknowledging all art forms across the county; promote and encourage new audience development initiatives with professional and non-professional arts organisations.
- P.A.1.3 Actively engage with local artists, health and disability agencies and communities to develop collaborative partnerships in Arts and Health and Arts and Disability initiatives. Explore the area of Arts and Well Being and further develop a series of interventions specifically for artists and creatives which explore and nurture their creativity in a holistic manner.

### **Medium term**

- P.A. 1.4 Develop Youth Arts and Arts in Education initiatives . Encourage and facilitate the setting up of a Youth focused Steering Group, inviting representatives of all youth arts agencies (regional and national) to advise on cohesive youth arts planning and best practice.
- P.A.1.5 Carry out a review of all current partnerships between the Arts Service, external organisations and the education sector. Support arts initiatives with an ethos of social inclusion, including targeted arts programmes with national resources and local arts organisations.

## **Objective 2 Develop strategies which will address variances and encourage connectivity between rural and urban, professional and non-professional provision in the arts.**

### **Short / Medium term**

- P.A.2.1 Provide support to voluntary arts and community arts groups in their ambition to raise standards of arts management, development of arts programming and events and audience development.
- P.A.2.2 Carry out a review of the provision of specific funding streams for the non-professional arts sector and implement a grants structure to cater for this area.
- P.A.2.3 Investigate the development of professional organisations working with the voluntary / community arts organisations as mentor partners. Investigate the extension of the vacant premises scheme to include County Waterford.
- P.A.2.4 Develop a Rural Arts Network with the aim of increasing skills and capacity. Initiate a number of new high quality rural arts projects and residencies across all art forms in the county. The Rural Arts Network will be developed in conjunction with a number of partners including the Library Service and the Arts Council.

## **Objective 3 Ensure maximum potential of the Arts Information and Advisory Service**

### **Short term**

- P.A. 3.1 Provide an Information, Advisory and Advocacy Service. Document and profile Arts Service projects as part of the Arts Service Information On-line Service.

### **Medium term/Long term**

- P.A.3.2 Investigate the development of a Waterford Arts “WHAT’S ON” ‘App’ to include Arts Information and a link to the website database of all Waterford Artists.

## **Objective 4 Carry out a review and evaluation of all Arts Service funding structures**

### **Short term**

- P.A.4.1 Carry out a review of all grants and funding streams in line with the objectives of the new Arts Strategy and where appropriate realign and/or instigate new grants to achieve strategy goals.
- P.A.4.2 Ensure information about grants and funding opportunities is readily available in all forms i.e. on-line and hard copy formats for all to access.

## **SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS (S.A.) Theme 2**

**To support artists, arts organisations, arts venues and dedicated arts festivals to maximise their capacity and capability**

**Objective 1 Support for artists in the pursuit of their profession and with the ambition to live and work in Waterford City and County.**

### **ACTION Short term**

- S.A.1.1 Offer funding opportunities and training in the business of being an artist and provide professional development opportunities through the Artlinks programme.
- S.A.1.2 Provide opportunities for artists through the delivery of local authority events and programmes. Offer employment opportunities for artists through the Artist in Residence schemes.

### **Medium term**

- S.A.1.3 Investigate ways to encourage the development of artist networks artist buddy groups and artist led initiatives. Investigate potential affiliations with businesses and the Arts e.g. Art in Context schemes, funding opportunities.
- S.A.1.4 Provide support and advice for artists intent on setting up studio / works spaces.
- S.A.1.5 Investigate shadowing schemes for artists - e.g. short-term apprenticeships on Per Cent for Arts schemes, Arts in Health schemes, Arts in Community schemes. Investigate the development of specific opportunities for emerging artists.
- S.A.1.6 Ensure all artists engaged by the Arts Service are paid as per National Payment Guidelines and in so far as is practicable ensure all funded organisations follow this basic requirement for paying artists.

**Objective 2 Support for artists to develop their creative practice, develop new work and encourage the promotion of new art forms currently not experienced or practiced in the county**

### **Short term**

- S.A.2.1 Provide funding for artists through the Arts Service grant schemes which allow time to develop and produce new work.

### **Medium term**

- S.A.2.2 Create specific opportunities to develop new art forms and practice through targeting art forms within the grants, residencies, commissions and public art structure. Support audience development initiatives for new art forms. Support artist-led peer mentoring initiatives in all art forms.

**Objective 3 Support artists, arts organisations, venues and dedicated arts festivals in County Waterford by providing a comprehensive information service**

**Short term**

- S.A.3.1 Provide information and advice to artists, arts organisations, venues and dedicated arts festivals. Carry out an independent review of the Waterford Arts Information and Advisory Service for recommendations on maximising potential.
- S.A.3.2 Investigate the development of a comprehensive artist database to promote the work of Waterford artists on-line and through social media.
- S.A.3.3 Support audience development initiatives for arts organisations, venues, dedicated arts festivals that promote new art forms or those currently not practiced or experienced in the county.

## **IDENTITY & PLACE (I.P.) Theme 3**

**Expresses the cultural value and vibrancy of Waterford, celebrating and promoting Waterford’s Cultural Infrastructure and the Cultural Identity of its people. Developing a model of cultural fusion, regionally, nationally and internationally.**

**Objective 1 Encourage initiatives that will develop Waterford’s cultural identity locally and promote cultural integration and exchange**

### **Short term/Medium term**

- I.P.1.1 Acknowledge the county’s Gaeltacht status, promoting the Irish language and Traditional Arts<sup>4</sup>. Develop new initiatives in the area of Traditional Arts that link into International Cultural programming and residencies with the aim of sharing and promoting traditional cultures on a national and international basis.
- I.P.1.2 Further develop the county as a viable Film Location and a place where film artists are supported to live and work.
- I.P.1.3 Initiate the development of a Rural Arts Network to be inclusive of artists, arts organisations, and other key stakeholders - which will have the potential to feed into the development of a Regional Arts Network. Develop ways to assist international communities living in Waterford to more easily access Arts Information and Networking Services.
- I.P.1.4 Research Arts funding initiatives that could assist community integration and awareness of International communities living in Waterford.

**Objective 2 Encourage collaboration and partnerships which promote Waterford’s cultural identity, regionally, nationally and internationally**

### **Short term**

- I.P.2.1 Continue to promote partnership with ArtLinks, thereby strengthening Waterford’s Regional status.
- I.P.2.2 Reward and encourage arts venues and organisations that demonstrate collaborative and outward looking policies in terms of diverse and multicultural arts programming and which encourage the notion of ‘Identity and Place’. Work in partnership with regional, national and international agencies to develop high quality arts programming that can be produced, performed or exhibited in all areas of the County.
- I.P.2.3 A programme devised around the promotion and awareness of place-names as a means of forming connectivity through local identities.

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<sup>4</sup> *Defined* by the Arts Council of Ireland as comprising traditional music, song, dance and oral arts such as storytelling, agallamh beirte and lúibíní

### **Short / Medium term**

- I.P.2.4 Following on from the regional context of the European Capital of Culture bid process - Research the opportunity to develop an international arts conference around the notion of Identity and Place. The proposed conference would interrogate notions of cultural identity and place, notions of cultural infrastructure and what this means for Waterford and beyond.
- I.P.2.5 Research International Residency Programmes with Waterford Arts Venues and Arts Festivals. These may include Writer's Residency, Theatre Residency, Dance Residency, Film Residency, Arts & Health Residency.

## **Objective 3 Enhance capacity of arts venues, dedicated arts festivals and arts organisations as the counties infrastructural arts resource**

### **Short / Medium term**

- I.P.3.1. To support Arts Venues and Dedicated Arts Festivals through the Venues and Festivals funding streams.
- I.P.3.2 Examine the support of newly established venues and dedicated arts festivals, rewarding those demonstrating substantial cultural and economic value to the county. Examine the possibility of offering mentoring initiatives to newly developing arts organisations to encourage up-skilling and increase capacity building.
- I.P.3.3 Investigate the development of a Venues Network Group for Waterford to stimulate connectivity, collaboration and sharing. Promote and introduce new audience development initiatives and devise strategies to communicate the cultural identity of Waterford within and beyond its borders.

## **Objective 4 Determine strategies to implement 'best practice' regarding arts infrastructure for Waterford**

### **Short/Medium term**

- I.P.4.1 Develop strategies that maximise potential usage of existing local authority supported venues. Investigate possible partnerships to assist the development of new model of operating these venues leading towards long-term sustainability.

### **Long term**

- I.P.4.2 Commission an Infrastructure Research Report to determine current arts infrastructure and strategies for maximising usage and improving arts infrastructure throughout the county.
- I.P.4.3 Examine the feasibility of developing a large-scale multi-media arts venue that would be a flagship, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Feasibility for this project would be determined by the Infrastructure Research Report.

## **Objective 5 Promote and Support Public Art and the Waterford Art Collection**

### **Short/Medium term**

- I.P.5.1 Develop a Public Art Policy and Waterford Art Collection policy using National Policy Standard models of best practice, including acquisition and purchasing policies, curation, auditing, education, storage and display etc.
- I.P.5.2 Access professional training in relation to the Per Cent for Art Scheme (Advise on scope, applications for artists, commissioners etc.)
- I.P.5.3 Identify specific areas of the Waterford Art Collection for development in programming, curation, education and outreach.

### **Long term**

- I.P.5.4 Examine the feasibility of developing a new permanent dedicated venue (fully staffed with a curator) for the Waterford Art Collection.

## IMPLEMENTATION

### The Arts Service

In Waterford, the Arts Service operates under the banner of the Library and Arts Service and is part of the Corporate Directorate. The Arts Service works closely with the associated Strategic Policy Committee, which assists in forming policy related matters.

The Arts Service operates from Dungarvan and Waterford City under the stewardship of two long serving Arts Officers, both of whom are members of the Local Authority Arts Officers Association and work within a national framework of Arts Officers (see <http://www.localartsireland.ie>, for further information about the work of the Arts Officers Association across the country).

Ensuring that provision support and awareness for the arts is achieved for both the arts sector and the community across all locations in the county, means that the function of the Arts Service is both complex and diverse. The function includes; Strategic Planning, Arts Programming (both as curator and producer), Grant Allocation, Venues, Advisory, Information, Arts Marketing, Arts Brokering, Advocacy and Evaluation. In line with the published Art Strategy, the Arts Service devises and implements an annual programme for the arts across all art forms. This is submitted to the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon for grant assistance and receives matching funding from the local authority.

#### Functions include:

**Strategic Planning** – The Arts Service has a remit to ensure the provision of a strategic plan for the arts from which all policy decisions and actions will be formulated.

**Arts Programming** – The Arts Service devises and implements an annual programme for the arts in line with the agreed Arts Strategy.

**Grant Allocation** – The Arts Service provides arts grants, arts bursaries and arts funding and therefore ensures that the management of all funding allocation and criteria procedures are transparent, accountable and follow models of good practice.

**Venues** – The Arts Service supports and manages a number of arts venues and spaces within the county, and therefore aims to promote good practice in maintenance and development of the county arts infrastructure.

**Advisory** – The Arts Service provides advice and Information on all matters relating to the Arts to artists, arts organisations, arts festivals, targeted groups, and the general public.

**Arts Marketing** – The Arts Service promotes the art programmes, projects, events, and grants on a regular basis via all media outlets.

**Art Brokers** – The Arts Service develops partnerships across the arts sector and also with organisations outside of the arts sector. Partnerships are also developed within the Council through interdepartmental negotiations. All of these partnerships are crucial in ensuring the long-term sustainability and development of the arts for the county and the community.

**Arts Advocacy** – The Arts Service play a role in promoting the value of and need for the arts to key stakeholders, communities, and the public in Waterford. This advocacy role is essential in ensuring that the arts, as an expression of cultural well-being, are made visible and encouraged by all.

**Evaluation** – The Arts Service continually evaluates all actions on a project-by-project basis within the framework of the Arts strategy.

The implementation and review of this Arts Strategy is under the remit of the Arts Service. The Arts Service values the support of Council officials, staff members, elected members and national resource organisations in delivering the actions therein.

## Evaluation

A crucial and significant challenge of the Arts Strategy will be the design of its evaluation and monitoring procedures. A stringent evaluation process will ensure that the Strategy will be effective in regulating outcomes and monitoring successes for future arts planning. The evaluation process will gather and analyse information, which will pave the way for the next Arts Strategy, and will address questions such as:

What criteria do we use to set our goals?

How are we performing, have we achieved our targets?

What is the intrinsic value of arts programmes supported by the Arts Strategy?

Do we understand why people participate and why they do not?

Are audiences growing?

We need to ensure that we are clear about what targets we are setting and why.

Collecting information for audience development purposes is very different from collecting evaluation information about a particular process-based art project, which may be focused on a small, targeted audience from a social exclusion category.

In this instance, it would obviously be inappropriate to set attendance levels to an event as a target of success. In other words, we need to consider methodologies that evaluate quantitatively and qualitatively and where appropriate - a combination of the two methods.

A great deal of research has been carried out into ways of capturing and interpreting notions of the value of art and culture in our society. For example, the recently published UK based Arts & Humanities Research Council's Cultural Value Project: *Understanding the value of arts & culture* (2016). , provides an extensive academic study into this subject. It is therefore vital that each activity has its own evaluation protocols included at the outset.

Waterford City and County Council Arts Service therefore commits to a continual evaluation of the Arts Strategy based upon its short/medium and long-term objectives.

This evaluation will be reviewed in a variety of ways:

- Arts Service internal monitoring and evaluation on a project by project basis . Evaluation will be designed prior to and according to the requirements of each activity and may require the contracting of external evaluation skills in particular cases.
- Regular reporting by the Arts Service to the Culture Department and members of the Strategic Policy Committee and the elected Council.
- Bi-annual consultation workshops with key stakeholders.
- Research will be undertaken on best practice evaluation procedures and these will be incorporated in to our evaluation methodologies.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1

*'The arts define and redefine our culture ... and should be recognised as such'*

*(participant quote from World Café event, Tramore)*

### The Waterford Context

Waterford City and County Council has a long commitment to Arts provision; supporting artists, arts organisations and the community; underlying the Council's belief that the provision of art and culture has a significant contribution to make to the social and economic wellbeing of the whole community and visitors alike.

Priorities for the Arts Service (City and County) have included: access to the arts, support for artists, support for arts practice, arts venues, arts festivals and events. This has covered a wide range of supports including advice and advocacy, funding, programming (across all art forms) mentoring and developing partnerships.

The Council's commitment to the Arts has been evident through the development and undertaking of strategic arts plans, the most recent being the *Waterford County Local Authorities Arts Plan 2012-2017* and *Waterford City Council Arts Plan 2011-2016*. Both of these Arts Plans were formulated and implemented through the Arts Services of the then City and County Councils. Since the amalgamation of both local authorities in 2014 the formulation of a new Arts Strategy has come to the fore.

It is important to reflect upon and acknowledge the considerable achievements that have been made since the Arts Services began operation. It is also important to appreciate that many of these achievements are part of a long-term strategic planning process and, as such, will form part of the new strategy as continuous actions.

### The Art Strategy - Research

The research for this strategy has been carried out over a six month period and is inclusive of:

- All current arts and cultural provision in the city and county of Waterford
- All urban and rural arts provision and any emerging issues or perceived gaps in current provision
- The key current priorities and objectives of the Arts Service that need to be carried forward in future arts provision
- Regional, National and International frameworks of Arts Provision within the current economic environment

## The National Context

*'The arts shape and challenge us, give us pleasure, help us to know who we are and where we are going: their distinctive, creative power is an essential feature of our consciousness and conversation. At home and abroad the arts are the hallmark of our creativity as a people.'*<sup>5</sup>

Waterford City and County Arts Strategy 2016-2021 must be understood in the context of a wider national framework of arts provision. Under the Arts Act 2003, a local authority is required to prepare plans for the development of the Arts within their governance. This commitment demonstrates that the arts are an integral part of local economic and social development. Waterford City and County Council Arts Service is also in receipt of funding from the Arts Council of Ireland and therefore this strategy takes cognisance of the recently published strategy for the arts; *Making Great Art Work – Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland Arts Council Strategy (2016-2025)*.

Challenges for the arts sector have, on a national basis, always been demanding. National and local budgetary decisions that allocate funds across government departments can be hard won battles; resulting in the arts being all too easily dismissed as non-essential, and therefore sidelined in terms of funding.

There have been many academic and critical studies and reports written which outline the essential place of the arts in our lives. *Assessment of Economic Impact of the Arts in Ireland* in 2009 (updated 2011) which sought 'to establish an evidence driven evaluation of the economic impact of the arts as an input into wider economic policy' (INDECON, 2012, p.1); The Arts Council of England's evidence review, *The Value of Arts and Culture to People and Society*, (2014); and most recently the UK based Arts & Humanities Research Council's Cultural Value Project: *Understanding the value of arts & culture* (2016).

It is also encouraging to see the strength of collaborations such as those between the Arts Council of Ireland and the Local Authority Arts Offices, who have worked in partnership nationally, to deliver a comprehensive and quality service for the Arts across Ireland for over 30 years. This partnership has recently been augmented through the publication, *A Framework for Collaboration: – Working together to create great art experiences for everyone*. This is a published agreement between the Arts Council of Ireland and the County and City Management Association, (CCMA) in which it is quoted:

*'We believe the arts, because they encompass a diversity of human experience in a variety of forms, contribute directly to building cohesive and sustainable communities and to enhancing quality of life.'*

The Arts Strategy was also devised concurrent with the Three Sisters 2020 bid to win the title of **European Capital of Culture for Ireland 2020** and with the development of the new regional cultural strategy "**Better Together: The Three Sisters Regional Cultural Strategy 2016-2025**".

Although the Bid was not successful, it was distinguished by a collaboration between the three counties of Waterford, Wexford and Kilkenny, which drew upon the creative and cultural energies of each county to transform the South East region under the collective title 'Three Sisters'. The Arts Service has both learnt from and been inspired by this process, elements of which will be built upon within the annual arts programme.

This innovative and imaginative cross county approach to cultural development and policy will have major implications for the visibility, competitiveness and appreciation of the value of arts and culture

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<sup>5</sup> *Making Great Art Work – Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland, Arts Council Strategy (2016-2025, p.4*

for the region as a whole, and can therefore only impact positively on the Arts. The policy driven Regional Strategy will provide the added advantage of both feeding the ambitions of the Arts Strategy and supporting the actions arising from it.

Alongside these supports, Waterford City and County Council's Arts Strategy recognise the significance of the following: the Library Development Plan, Waterford Heritage Plan and Waterford's Community Development Plan.

## **How the Strategy is structured**

The Arts Strategy recognises the Arts as integral to the cultural, social and economic growth of the county. As a working document the Arts Strategy needs to be delivered in a coherent, communicative and implementable manner for the key stakeholders and wider community. It is also important to appreciate that, as with any strategic planning, it is necessary to factor in a level of flexibility and adaptability to changing and unforeseen circumstances.

On another level, the Art Strategy needs to be an inspirational document which should encourage leverage for future cultural policy developments and investments, locally, regionally and nationally for the benefit of the entire county. It must also advocate integration of arts and culture into the Council's mainstream service provision and promote the role of cultural activity in the overall social and economic well-being of the county. This will ensure that local support for the arts will contribute to the development of the local economy, local identity and quality of life for all our citizens.

## **Arts Providers and Arts Users**

The strategy is designed to cultivate a balance between local arts providers and local arts users; this balance is essential for the growth of the arts sector in the county. The growth and development of arts service providers (artists, arts venues, organisations and festivals will offer an accessible, quality arts service to the entire community on a sustainable basis.

## **The Themes – how they work together**

The Strategy is structured upon three themes:

- Participation and Access
- Support for Artists
- Identity and Place

**Participation and Access:** The main focus of this theme is for arts service users. It is primarily concerned with ensuring that specific groupings and the general public have access to the arts, across all art forms, across all locations of the county.

**Support for Artists:** The main focus of this theme is for arts service providers. It is about providing services and support for artists, arts venues, arts organisations and arts festivals; creating the conditions where arts providers, will be able to live and work in the county and as such be an available sustainable resource for the entire community.

**Identity and Place:** The main focus of this theme is about tapping into and growing the cultural identity of the entire county, celebrating and promoting Waterford's cultural vibrancy. This theme encompasses both of the first two themes. It is about the arts service users (the audience) and the arts service providers (the artists, arts organisations, arts venues and arts festivals), all of whom contribute to the cultural vibrancy that is Waterford. The theme aims to express the cultural vibrancy of Waterford, inside and beyond its borders, celebrating Waterford's Cultural Infrastructure and Cultural Identity. As one contributor wrote in the consultation process –



## *‘Waterford is a place that supports artists – this is our identity’*

The strategy is therefore structured as follows:

- Guiding Principles which outline the criteria for decision making
- Key Policy Strands are divided into three themed policy approaches  
Participation and Access  
Support for Artists  
Identity and Place
- Objectives are a response to the themed policy approaches
- Actions which outline specific responses to achieve the stated objectives

### **Course of Action**

While it is essential to take cognisance of the regional, national and international frameworks for arts development, Waterford City and County Council understands that an Arts Strategy is first and foremost for the people of Waterford. A priority for the Strategy has therefore been to appreciate and document the needs and aspirations of the local arts community and all those interested in the arts. This has been achieved by means of a public consultation process, which has included artists, arts organisations, community and voluntary organisations, the education sector, commercial arts ventures and the general public.

The process began with public meetings in Dungarvan and Waterford City. At the meetings a position paper was presented which outlined current arts provision and called upon the attendees to discuss any issues or perceived gaps in provision. This produced open and frank discussions around a set of structured questions on access and inclusion to the arts for the community, support for artists, support for arts organisations, support for arts audiences and the cultural infrastructure of Waterford.

The discussions at the meetings focused on three priorities, identified as encompassing all existing and potentially new areas of arts provision:

- Participation and Access
- Support for Artists
- Identity and Place

Following these meetings, the position paper and questionnaire (see Appendix 2) was published online for anyone to submit their views. Analysis of the recorded feedback from the meetings informed the next stage of the process.

The main issues raised were:

- Funding: levels and availability of funding, accountability in funding mechanisms
- Livelihood and support for artists
- Availability and the use of arts spaces for creating, exhibiting, performing work - a call for a multi-purpose venue and studio spaces
- Access to the arts – particularly in rural areas
- Disparity between the needs of professional and non-professional arts

One of the key observations was the perceived sharp divide between City and County, Urban and Rural, Professional and Non-Professional Arts. It was considered that an initial step to address this division should be made in the next stage of the consultation process. In response, a meeting was called to bring City and County, Urban and Rural, Professional and Non-Professional Arts to work together in one meeting place.; World Café<sup>6</sup> Arts Focus Meeting in Tramore, where participants from City and County worked together around some of the common issues that arose from the first meetings.

The workshop in Tramore proved to be highly successful and generated further clarification of some of the issues raised by participants at the first meetings. The questions posed at this workshop and some of the responses recorded by participants (as direct transcriptions) can be found in Appendix 2.

In addition to and concurrent with the public meetings feedback was also gathered from direct conversations with some key stakeholders and via written submissions.

## **A Shared Vision**

The development of the new arts strategy allowed the arts community to voice its opinion on emerging issues or perceived gaps in current provision. All contributions have been gratefully received and where possible incorporated into the new objectives and actions of this strategy.

### **Some of the findings**

What became evident from the consultation process was that while the arts are thriving, the specific needs of artists and arts organisations in the City and County are different. As one participant from the World Café workshop expressed, the new arts strategy needs to, '*Prioritise issues of access & inclusion based on needs of the city / county specifically*'. From the perspective of Waterford City the feedback focused primarily upon issues of;

- funding for artists and arts organisations, including a call for clarity around funding levels and availability and accountability of funding mechanisms,
- support for the livelihood of artists,
- availability of artist spaces for both creating work, displaying, rehearsing and performance.

Responses from artists and the community in rural areas was focused upon:

- physical access to the arts in rural locations, i.e. how to bring quality arts events and projects into the more isolated areas,
- ways to increase links, networks, collaborations and mentoring between the city and rural areas,
- ways to improve the distribution and availability of arts information for the community and artists living in rural areas particularly for those without easy access to the internet,
- funding, particularly for young and emerging artists
- ways to support the livelihood of artists who want to live and work in rural areas,
- access to arts spaces and venues for both the creation and display of work for artists, community groups and audiences.

It is fair to acknowledge that while some of the specific requirements of the City and County may differ, what was made clear is that there is one shared vision and that is that the Arts and Artists must be valued - and seen to be valued.

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<sup>6</sup> A meeting based on the principles of The World Café Community Foundation.

## Appendix 2

### Consultation Process

Details of the Position Paper and Questions posted online on [www.waterfordarts.com](http://www.waterfordarts.com)

#### Waterford Council Arts Strategy 2016-2021

The amalgamation of Waterford City and County Councils (2014) into a new single authority has required the administrative and functional amalgamation of the Arts Services within this structure. This has created the opportunity for the development of a new Arts Strategy for Waterford 2016-2021.

Consultation is currently being held with key stakeholders and the public to ensure that the development of the strategy will take cognisance of:

- All current arts and cultural provision in the city and county of Waterford
- Address any perceived gaps in urban/rural provision.
- Key strategic priorities and objectives for the future.
- Regional, National and International frameworks of Arts Provision within the current economic environment.

Two public meetings were held: in Dungarvan (26.01.16) and in Waterford City (03.02.16). The aim of the public meetings was to offer artists, arts organisations, members of the public and anyone interested in the development of the arts the opportunity to contribute ideas and suggestions in relation to arts provision in the county and to highlight any gaps they feel need to be addressed in the formulation of a new arts strategy. Following these meetings, the Arts Office is now inviting anyone unable to attend the meetings the opportunity to contribute to the process by written submission. You will find attached a position paper and a number of questions that were put to the audience participating in the public meetings. Now is your chance to have your say so please feel free to write a response to these questions and send them to Sally O'Leary at [aspreatarts@gmail.com](mailto:aspreatarts@gmail.com)

#### The Process

1. Public Meetings have been held at two locations in Waterford, at which the framework for the development of an arts strategy (locally, regionally, nationally and internationally) was presented. The current provision for the Arts was outlined, including the merging of two Arts Offices, and the participating audience were asked for their ideas about any gaps or issues they felt needed to be addressed for future arts provision for the county as a whole.
2. The same position paper (with questions) is now available online (see attached) for anyone who is interested in completing this should return your responses to Sally O'Leary at [aspreatarts@gmail.com](mailto:aspreatarts@gmail.com). For information on current arts provision from the Arts Office see the links for Waterford County Arts Plan [here](#), and Waterford City Arts Plan [here](#). **Please return your comments for submission by latest 4.00pm 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016.**
3. All responses are important to the Council and will be considered. Once all input has been made the development and drafting of the new Strategy will commence.

4. A public update meeting will be held and an invitation to interested individuals and parties will be issued. The date and venue of this meeting will be announced in due course.
5. In order to allow for flexibility, a timeframe for developing the Arts Strategy has not been fixed. However, every effort will be made to ensure that the publication of the new Arts Strategy will be within the first half of 2016.
6. The new Arts Strategy will need to be developed in line with the current national economic framework. The Local Authority operates on an annual funding basis at present. The development of the Strategy will be in line with current operations. It is intended to allow scope to consider all ideas and aspirations.

The development of the Arts Strategy is proceeding concurrent with other major development strategies for Waterford, both on a local and regional level and will therefore will be reflective of key objectives of these strategies. These include: Library Development Plan, Waterford Heritage Plan, Community Development Plan.

The function of an Arts Strategy is to clearly define the Council's vision for arts provision and development over the next five years. This will be achieved by prioritising Goals and establishing Actions that will fulfill stated Objectives.

#### **Priority Goals**

Taking cognisance of the *Waterford County Local Authority Arts Plan 2012-2017* and *Waterford City Council Arts Plan 2011-2016*, the following priorities have been identified as being able to encompass all existing and potentially new areas of arts provision under the headings:

- Participation and Access
- Support for Artists
- Identity and Place

## ***'Find It – Define it – Celebrate it'***

### **How the consultation process defined the strategy**

***'Find It – Define It – Celebrate It'***, was a comment written by a participant in the workshop at the World Café in Tramore. The Arts Service decided to use this quote as a way to articulate one of the principle areas of emphasis for the new Strategy.

That is to **find** and then **define** any challenges that emerge from the amalgamation of City and County. Then through collaboration and sharing, to **celebrate** and utilise these challenges as opportunities to move forward towards a shared vision for the arts in Waterford. This principle evolved from the consultation process and will continue through the life of this Arts Strategy.

Therefore, Waterford City and County Council recognises that the Arts in Waterford must be valued and seen to be valued, across all art forms, all locations, all practices whether professional or non-professional because all have an equal part to play in the intricate and complex web that is the cultural infrastructure of the county.

### **What the Public Consultation Process achieved**

- Generated interest and involvement in the development of the Arts in Waterford
- Provided a platform for artists, arts groups and organisations and the general public to be a part of the Arts development process
- Ensured that all current arts and cultural providers in the city and county had a voice in the process
- Allowed for emerging issues or perceived gaps in urban and rural arts to be discussed and considered in an open forum
- Allowed an opportunity for all interested parties to discuss current Regional, National and International frameworks for Arts Provision
- Allowed for a structured, formal information gathering process
- Ensured that the arts community and the public are informing the Arts Strategy and will therefore take ownership of the Arts Strategy

### **Challenges and Opportunities that emerged**

#### **Challenges**

- Merging City and County, a Rural & Urban divide
- Acknowledging differences in expectations and needs

#### **Opportunities**

- Need to investigate ways to move towards achieving common goals
- Collaboration, Connectivity and Sharing skills
- Opportunities for all to expand the boundaries

**Waterford Arts Strategy 2016-2021**

**POSITION PAPER**

<b>Public Participation &amp; Access</b>	<b>Supporting Artists</b>	<b>Identity and Place</b>
Development and delivery of quality Arts Programming acknowledging all art forms across the county.	Providing professional development opportunities through Artlinks	<b>Continued support to Writers Retreats, Ardmore.</b>
Arts in Education projects Arts Social Inclusion Programmes Community Arts Programmes	Arts Bursaries/awards/grants and mentoring	<b>Acknowledging the county's Gaeltacht status and to promote the Irish language and Traditional Arts.</b>
Support to Arts venues	Engaging artists for the delivery of local authority events and programmes	<b>Develop the county as a viable Film Location</b>
Artlinks support for artists across all art forms	Artist in Residence schemes	<b>Establishing Waterford's Regional Cultural Identity through Artlinks engagement</b>
Arts Festivals	Providing training services for artists and arts organisations	<b>Supporting and developing Festivals as a county resource</b>
Targeted Arts Programmes with national resources and local arts organisations.	Supporting viable partnerships that have developed over the previous plans	<b>Supporting Arts Venues as a resource</b>
Engaging with national arts projects ie Bealtaine/Culture Night etc.	Developing new partnership initiatives	<b>Engaging with the European Capital of Culture bid 2020</b>
Audience Development Initiatives	Audience/Artist Development Initiatives	<b>Audience Development Initiatives</b>
Providing Information, Advisory & Advocacy Service	Providing Information, Advisory and Advocacy Service	<b>Providing Information, Advisory &amp; Advocacy Service</b>
Public Art and the Waterford Art Collection	Public Art and the Waterford Art Collection	<b>Public Art and the Waterford Art Collection</b>

## **Tramore World Café Event**

The following are the questions posed at this workshop and some of the responses recorded by participants (as direct transcriptions).

### **Question 1: What actions do you consider are needed for the Arts Office to support artists to live and work in County Waterford?**

*'Better Marketing of the Arts – an App to inform on What's Happening'*

*'Properly subsidised and structured buildings for artists – with shared assets'*

*'Better co-ordination of Arts organisations'*

*'Mentoring'*

*'Shared Collaborative Space - Large Spaces needed'*

*'We need places to work, studio space and exhibition venue. Instead of cash give us facilities and equipment LET US DO ... LET US ACT ....'*

*'Put [us] in touch with business – supports to help events get more sponsors'*

*'Help by buddy mentoring for help with successful applications'*

*'More advice for non-professionals or semi-professionals from mentors'*

*'Remuneration of Artists / Wages / Art Grants'*

### **Question 2: What actions do you consider are needed to ensure that the Arts Office Strategy fully engages with issues of access and inclusion in the arts?**

*'Create a database to share information with socially excluded groups'*

*'Run residential arts weekends'*

*'Arts Office expertise to wider community including disability, vulnerable minority, children, under privileged'*

*'Provide information online and by other means about what the arts office offers regarding access and inclusion'*

*'Support for artists to undertake projects that discriminate positively with disadvantaged minority groups'*

*'Database of artists with disabilities'*

*'Minority communities – feel little excluded / e.g. Polish artists / Traveller community / Mature Community – link new community web sites to arts office'*

*'Priorities of issues of access & inclusion based on needs of the city / county specifically'*

*'Models of best practice in other countries on supporting disability groups'*

*'Use libraries in rural areas to exhibit art / run workshops'*

*'The arts define and redefine our culture in the county and should be recognised as such'*

*'Inclusion means also valuing the artist's time to make sure they are paid properly for events and activities'*

### **Question 3: What are the challenges / divergences that you see between rural and urban arts provision in county Waterford? - What actions are needed to overcome these?**

*'Creative hubs – small corner of each library for all arts – a 'live' notice board facilitating provision of workshops in each hub area'*

*'Communication network. Better co-ordination of events – i.e. ensure venues not competing against each other'*

*'More networking between city and county in venues'*

*'Artist directory for Waterford – must be maintained on waterfordarts.com'*

*'Transportation of creative practices – vacant premises – travelling art bus – artists, writers, actors, dancers'*

*'Artist sheds'*

*'Involve writers / artists in more events like this every year or so to build on previous years events / activities'*

*'Lets have a bit more content in the rural venues – less pretty – less safe – great art reflects the concerns of the community its inclusive, reflective, it opens issues for discourse'*

*'Bring sense of community from county arts events to the city'*

**Question 4: What are the challenges / divergences that you see between professional and non-professional arts provision in county Waterford - What actions are needed to overcome these?**

*'More information for non-professionals arts in the city'*

*'Large commercial workshop – yearly membership – low cost'*

*'Encourage festival groups to work together'*

*'Overlapping of events, festivals etc – pulling resources away from each other rather than pooling forces and benefitting from it collectively'*

*'Spaces that can be rental on day basis'*

*'Information on business admin PR marketing and event management for production / events'*

*'Buddy system between professional and non-prof artists to help them start up'*

*'Directory of Musicians artists etc'*

*'Small grants for community centres / groups to run taster workshops on a range of art forms for local communities'*

*'Develop a collaborative model of artists working with communities and best practice of working together'*

*'Create an infrastructure that encompasses the whole of the county so that a show / exhibition / workshops / has access to a network of venues'*

*'Professional v Non-professional – support those who are transitioning from amateur to prof status – Establish new professional funding opportunities – mentoring schemes from experienced artists to support those who are less experienced'*

**Question 5: What actions do you think are needed in the Arts Strategy to ensure that the Cultural Infrastructure and Identity of the whole of Waterford will be valued into the future as an example of cultural fusion regionally, nationally and internationally?**

*'Communication would create and reinforce an infrastructure'*

*'Tours / trails / city and county'*

*'Advice and fund projects to interrogate the notion of identity and place to recognise Waterford as a place of multi-cultural identity'*

*'Cross intercultural arts projects bringing a range of cultures together to represent Waterford of today (urban, rural, all groupings in the community)'*

*'Films in Waterford as International Film location'*

*'What is culture? – what is cultural infrastructure? – culture is community – yet the community is diverse – does the arts office address the whole community or a select few demographic who owns the cultural infrastructure – who benefits from it? – who owns the chips?'*

*'Festivals should have space for art'*

*'Develop an arts infrastructure / venues in the whole region'*

*'More venues – open engagement'*

*'International exposure'*

*'Waterford – is a place that supports artists – this is our identity'*

## **Appendix 3**

### **Arts Sector Consultation**

The following is a list of attendees and participants who attended the consultation meetings and those who contributed through written and phone submissions.

Spraoui – T.V. Honan  
WHAT - Mary Grehan  
Art Lecturer in WIT – Mary Ruth Walsh  
Garter Lane Art Centre – Caroline Senior  
IMAGINE – Ollie Breslin  
Waterford Youth Arts (WYA) – Ollie Breslin  
Waterford Film Centre – Ollie Breslin  
Theatre Studies WIT – Fionnuala Brennan and students  
Waterford Choirs – Niall Crowley (WIT)  
Children’s Group Link - Brendan Halligan  
Máire Seó Breathnach – Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge

### **Submission Forms received from Public Meetings from:**

Eamonn Maxwell  
Ciara Gormley  
Caroline Senior  
Derbhile Drommey  
Mags Drohan  
Frank Whelan  
Niall Crowley  
Patrick Grogan

**(The Arts Service also received several unsigned forms)**

**Contributions from Public Meetings**

**Dungarvan**

Anna Moore  
Mary Lawless  
David Hollywood  
Eamon Maxwell  
Jennifer Marshall  
Ciara Gormley  
Caroline Senior  
Michael Loftus  
Laura Mc Namara  
Mary Kelly  
Lani O'Hanlon  
Sarah Lincoln  
Cordelia Burke  
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan  
Katherine Collins  
Blawnin Clancy  
Samantha Hayes  
Liam Murphy  
Deirdre Collender  
Joan Clancy  
Natanya Geoghegan

**Waterford City Meeting**

Deirbhle Drommey  
Mary Ruth Walsh  
Christine O'Brien  
Anna Jordan  
Ollie Breslin  
Darragh Drea  
Robert Alexander  
Sandra Kelly  
Ben Hennessy  
Mary Boland  
Ronan FitzGibbon  
John Smiles

Barbara Nunah  
Alan O'Neill  
Steven Stubbs  
Michael Shanahan  
Fintan Power  
Mags Drohan  
Nollaig Brennan  
Nick Kavanagh  
Katherine Collins  
Liam Murphy  
Stephen Butler  
Kay Sinnott Browne  
Jenna Whelan  
Gary Kennealy  
Kay Nugent  
Frank Whelan  
Michelle Byrne  
Jenny Clooney  
Anna Goodwin  
Fionnuala Brennan  
Aoife Murphy  
Derbhile Graham  
Kate Mc Carthy  
Barbara Strzalkowska  
Ben O'Shea  
Joan O'Leary  
Pat Grogan  
Ben Quinlan  
Ruth Flynn  
Martin Fahy  
Michael Doody  
Jane Cantwell  
Margaret O'Brien  
Rachel Corcoran  
Jim Walsh  
Amy Power  
Pat Mc Ardle  
James Rockett  
Mary Boland

Nora Boland  
Edel Tobin  
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan  
Sarah Jane Hanton

**Tramore – World Café participants**

Adele Stanley  
Kevin O'Keeffe  
Louise Grubb  
Rachel Ryan  
Margaret O'Brien  
Tom Finnegan  
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan  
Rosemary Dulson  
Katrina Bent  
Anthony Hayes  
Ciara Langan  
Áine McCarthy-Kent  
Deirdre Ó Maidín  
Laura McNamara  
Kate O'Beirne  
Michelle Bourke- Girgis  
Stephan Byrne  
Pippa Sweeney  
Jenifer Marshall  
Derbhile Graham  
Cecilia Carelse  
Loretta Kinsella  
Lani O'Hanlon  
Mags Drohan  
Michael Quinn  
Ben Hennessy  
Úna Kealy  
Peter O'Boyle  
Ger Kennedy  
Joan O' Leary  
Ann Dowling

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Arts Service would like to thank all members of the arts sector, community groups, the Housing, Community and Culture SPC and the general public, whose input has been invaluable in the formulation of this Arts Strategy (see Appendix 3 for a full list of contributors).

Thanks are also extended to all those who helped in the management, facilitation, and consultative process that led to the publication of this document.

Art Consultant, Sally O’Leary, Asprey Arts Ltd in partnership with the Arts Officers carried out the management and facilitation of the consultation process and the writing of the Arts Strategy.

In particular the Arts Service wish to thank:

### **Members of the Waterford City and County Council**

Mayor Adam Wyse  
Cllr Liam Brazil  
Cllr Breda Brennan  
Cllr John Carey  
Cllr Declan Clune  
Cllr Joe Conway  
Cllr Tom Cronin  
Cllr John Cummins  
Cllr Davy Daniels  
Cllr Declan Doocey  
Cllr Pat Fitzgerald  
Cllr Damien Geoghegan  
Cllr Jim Griffin  
Cllr Blaise Hannigan  
Cllr John Hearne  
Cllr Joe Kelly  
Cllr Eddie Mulligan  
Cllr Ray Murphy  
Cllr Jason Murphy  
Cllr Pat Nugent  
Cllr Séamus O’Donnell  
Cllr John O’Leary  
Cllr Cha O’Neill,  
Cllr Michael J. O’Ryan  
Cllr Lola O’Sullivan  
Cllr Seánie Power  
Cllr John Pratt  
Cllr Eamon Quinlan  
Cllr Seán Reinhardt  
Cllr Mary Roche  
Cllr James Tobin  
Cllr Siobhán Whelan

## **Members of the Housing, Community and Culture SPC**

Cllr John Pratt – Chairman  
Cllr. Breda Brennan,  
Cllr John Carey,  
Cllr Damien Geoghegan,  
Cllr Blaise Hannigan  
Cllr John O’Leary,  
Cllr Cha O’Neill,  
Cllr Seán Reinhardt

### Sectoral Representatives

Michael Farrell,  
Andrea Galgey,  
Rosemary Kennedy  
Jemma Mackey,

## **Staff of Waterford City & County Council**

Michael Quinn Director of Services & Bid Director of Three Sisters ECOC Bid team  
& Members of the Housing, Community and Culture Directorate,  
Waterford City & County Council.

Jane Cantwell City & County Librarian  
& Members of the Library and Arts Service  
Waterford City & County Council.

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