



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
Local Government Ireland



Culture & Creativity Strategy

2023–2027



Carlow

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Foreword

As a county Carlow presents significant opportunities for culture and creativity to thrive and flourish for everyone living in our community. Through this strategy we invite communities to see themselves as co-creators of their own cultural and creative experiences, working with partners locally, nationally and internationally to enhance well-being and quality of life.

The picturesque landscape of County Carlow is characterised by four main character areas, namely the Central Lowlands, River Slaney — East Rolling Farm lands, Blackstairs and Mount Leinster Uplands and the Killeshin Hills. Carlow boasts beautiful natural amenities such as the River Barrow

Way, Oak Park Forest Park, Altamont Gardens and Ducketts Grove. With its rich Celtic past, County Carlow is steeped in historical and archaeological artefacts from pagan sites such as the Brownhill Dolmen to ecclesiastical settlements at St. Mullins and Old Leighlin, along with special areas of conservation. Carlow County Museum is one of Ireland's newest local museums, an award-winning tourist attraction housed in the former Presentation

Cruinniú na n'Og 2019, *Take A Part Carlow "Let Loose"* parade, featuring *Dublin Circus Project*, Carlow.

Photographer: Michael O'Rourke



Convent on College Street, Carlow Town.

For a small county Carlow is artistically rich, animated daily by our artists, designers, creators and communities, all of which are significantly recognised for contributing to the well-being of the place and enabling people to stay connected and feel a sense of belonging. Culture is also celebrated in the habitual, everyday acts of playing music, singing, dancing and gathering together to share folklore and stories. Carlow is also proud host to Glór Cheatharlach, a local organisation committed to the promotion of the Irish language and culture in Carlow since 2008.

Carlow is home to world-class, locally established national arts organisations developed through the County Arts Service. These include *Carlow Arts Festival*, *VISUAL*, *Music Generation Carlow*, *County Carlow Youth Theatre*, *Take A Part Carlow* with members of the Tullow Road, Carlow Town and Creative Places Bagenalstown. Independently initiated Cultural offerings also include *Borris House Festival of Writing and Ideas* which is just one of many festivals across County Carlow and *FORM design made* — a network of established designer makers from County Carlow, reflecting the interest, both in Ireland and internationally, in our locally based art, design and crafts roots.

Carlow's public libraries are a vibrant focal point of the community, bringing people together in a welcoming community hub and providing a collective sense of place, culture, and identity. Our Library service are leaders in delivering an innovative service which engages, informs, and provides greater access for individuals and communities through reading and literacy, learning and information, and community and culture. Initiatives such as *Healthy Ireland at Your Library* harness the potential of the library to act as a valuable source within the community to improve the health, well-being, and overall quality of life of

communities and individuals at all life stages.

Through the Local Economic and Community Plan and Local Arts Development Plan the role of culture and creativity is firmly placed at the heart of public policy in County Carlow promoting and encouraging the development of improved quality of life and public participation, facilitated through The Public Participation Network.

County Carlow's Culture and Creativity strategy builds on a legacy of over thirty years of pioneering cultural development within Carlow County Council. Over the last five years the Creative Ireland Carlow programme has provided significant opportunities for our communities and embedded Culture and Creativity within the Local Authority.

The aim of this strategy is to add value to existing policies and plans to boost County Carlow's significant cultural offering by supporting a more collaborative and joined up approach that will harness the potential of culture to support wider social, economic and community objectives. It will create opportunities for new ways of thinking and new ways of working to ensure that our vision to enable creativity in every community is fully realised.

Creative Ireland Carlow has become deeply embedded in the cultural and creative life of Carlow since its inception. As we move into a new developmental phase, we intend to improve access to and grow the far-reaching influence of the programme. Crucially — as a county, Carlow will strive to support our community's creativity, lead on cultural innovation and nurture well-being along our journey.

Cllr Brian O'Donoghue,
Cathaoirleach, Carlow County Council

Mr. Michael Rainey
Chief Executive (Interim), Carlow County Council

1 Creative Ireland 2023–2027

The Creative Ireland Programme is an all-of-government initiative committed to enhancing access to, engagement with, and enjoyment of Ireland’s culture and creativity. Within the broad range of available definitions, creativity is considered as *a set of innate abilities and learned skills; the capacity of individuals and organisations to transcend accepted ideas and norms and by drawing on imagination to create new ideas that bring additional value to human activity.*

The vision of the Creative Ireland Programme 2023–2027 is to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation so that individually and collectively, in our personal lives and in our institutions, we can realise our full creative potential thereby promoting individual, community and national wellbeing.

The Creative Ireland Programme will deliver through collaboration and partnership promoting understanding and appreciation of the value of creativity in all its forms — whether through the arts, culture, heritage, or technology.

The Creative Ireland Programme will prioritise its work around five aspects for the period 2023–2027:

1. Creative Youth
2. Creative Communities
3. Creative Industries
4. Creative Health and Wellbeing
5. Creative Climate Action and Sustainability

Through the Creative Ireland Programme, *Creative Communities* supports the partnership between the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Ireland’s local authorities. This partnership enables citizens and communities to explore their culture and creativity at local level and, where appropriate, leverage that creativity to strengthen wellbeing, advance social cohesion and support economic development.

Creative Communities is also innovative in deploying creativity to achieve greater integration across targeted policy priorities. This has delivered new creative engagement initiatives in relation to for example children and young people, older persons, climate action, and local economies. Individuals’ and communities’ perception about the role and value of culture and creativity as central to our wellbeing in its broadest sense is being enhanced.

The opportunity embraced within the Clare Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023–2027 is to support people’s participation, inclusion and expression within communities, and further strengthen local creative economies.



Borris House, Borris, Co. Carlow.
Photographer: Borris Festival of Writing and Ideas



Scabby House, Raheenkyle, nineteenth-century vernacular stone structure near Borris Co. Carlow. **Photographer:** Gary Dempsey (Digital Heritage Age)

2 Culture and Creativity in Carlow

Culture and Creativity is at the heart of our community. This strategy provides a unique opportunity for County Carlow to share our story of cultural transformation, resilience and innovation and its social, economic and community impact.

Since the beginning of the Creative Ireland Programme in Carlow, over €1,103,304 has been invested in culture and creativity across the County. Over 26 different projects have been supported through the Creative Ireland Carlow “Open Call” grant scheme. More than 121 live public engagements have been registered across Carlow’s Creative Ireland Programme since 2018. In 2021 alone, 47 creative practitioners engaged an audience of over 10,000 to deliver cultural activities and projects.

The Creative Ireland Carlow review consultation survey identified that some of County Carlow’s biggest strengths include:

- It’s rich history and heritage including built and environmental
- We have a strong community spirit and willingness to engage openly
- The geographically small size of Carlow allows us to easily concentrate resources, share expertise and knowledge to achieve great results
- Our significant community of professional arts practitioners and creatives across the county
- Our growing and diverse population providing many opportunities for cultural collaboration
- Carlow has a tradition of supporting community led initiatives relevant to their locality

Examples of successful initiatives, supported by Creative Ireland Carlow, that have championed collaboration, highlighted climate action or supported the vulnerable in our communities over the past five years include:

1. The Drummin Bog Project

‘Drummin Bog Arts Vision Programme’, is a 4 Part long term developmental project consisting of a mentorship programme, plus two creative strategies, the “Trackway project” and “The Banner project”. The Drummin Bog project enables co-operative collaborations connecting people, and building community across South Carlow, further developing resilient relationships between diverse age groups, especially young people. The Drummin Bog Project works to unify scientific ideas, archaeological knowledge, skills and most importantly creativity, to value, celebrate and

safeguard the unique natural heritage of Carlow’s Drummin Bog - the only remaining raised bog in the South East of Ireland.

2. Cruinniú na nÓg

The impact of Creative Ireland’s flagship initiative Cruinniú na nÓg in Carlow is also strongly felt and welcome. In 2022 alone, over 16 separate events took place across Carlow. These events were attended by 2,500 audience members, engaging with 5 different schools, 9 partner organisations and 16 artists. Carlow Arts Service delivers the annual Cruinniú na nÓg programme in Carlow in partnership with Carlow Arts Festival, Visual, Take A Part Carlow, Carlow Library Services, Music Generation Carlow, Carlow Regional Youth Services and Youth Reach.

3. EU Craft Hub and Borris Lace by Post

Carlow County Council is the lead partner on a new EU Project “Craft Hub”. This Creative Europe Project includes the development of a case study piece, funded by Creative Ireland, focusing on telling the story of collaboration with culture, arts, economic development and libraries in County Carlow in order to design this EU Project. Part of this initiative saw Carlow Arts Service collaborating with Carlow Local Enterprise Office, Carlow artists and craft makers and the Borris Lacemakers Group to develop “Borris Lace by Post” and “Borris Lace Exchange”. Funded by Creative Ireland creativity in Older Age Scheme funding, these projects have become deeply rooted in our community focusing on the promotion of the traditional Craft of Borris Lace, originating in the South of our County, from the place and people of Borris and Rathanna in the foothills of the Backstairs Mountain. This rurally isolated community participated in the project through Borris/Rathanna Active Retirement Group, Borris Men’s Shed and the local Borris Lodge Nursing Home linking up with Craft Hub EU partner countries.

3. From Carlow Streams archival project and website

For many native Carlovians the county anthem Follow Me Up to Carlow is about the only song title they associate with their native place. Well that has changed now thanks to the launch of a dedicated website titled From Carlow Streams which features an archive of songs and recitations about County Carlow or by Carlovians. To date approximately 210 items have been archived, tagged by local area, by author and by theme. Typical themes include: love, pride in place, emigration, local characters and events, local heroes (patriotic and sporting), religion and fun. Where recordings exist, they are also included. From Carlow Streams has been made possible by the funding and support of Creative Ireland. There is a long and rich oral tradition of song and story in Carlow but much of that material has been lost. This website and subsequent projects working in schools and with our older community, aims to preserve the traditions that still exist in this area of the county’s culture.

4. Covid Care Concerts in Carlow

The Covid Care Concerts were established by cellist Gerald Peregrine in May 2020 as a rapid response to the pandemic. To date over 105 of Ireland’s best-known artists have performed over 1,300 live concerts to over 125,000 people in 23 counties. The project is supported by Creative Ireland and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media in collaboration with local authorities.

Testimonials taken from Creative Ireland Carlow supported artists, facilitators and stakeholders highlighting successes and impacts on the daily lives of Carlow's community.

Author and poet Clifton Redmond on his Cruinniú na nÓg 2020 writing project

— *"The Last Wolf in Ireland"*.

"I have benefited from numerous opportunities through the various groups and organizations supported under the Creative Ireland umbrella in Carlow. I have attended workshops as both student and teacher. I have through community-based projects evolved from someone with a mild interest in a particular field, to a widely published writer who has seen how local supports can encourage an artist to grow and evolve. I was approached by Take Apart Carlow, during the pandemic, to lead an online creative writing project, funded through Creative Ireland Carlow, with children from around the county as part of Cruinniú na nÓg, which was based on "The Last Wolf" which as legend has it, the last wolf was shot in Carlow in the 1870s on Mount Leinster. The diligence of Take A Part Carlow and Creative Ireland Carlow to move Cruinniú na nÓg online in 2020 allowed young people from across the county to take part in the fun and festivities and offered an outlet in a time of need for many. I have had the pleasure of paying back my creative writing experience to both young people and older members of the community through these kinds of projects and have seen first-hand the results these initiatives can have on a community when they feel involved in the creative process."

Dancer and facilitator, Roisin Whelan, on Creativity in Older Age

— Project *Doorstep Dances*

"With the idea of bringing movement to people's homes, I didn't realise what we were really bringing was not just dance but company, laughter, joy and companionship. Every person I met on the way has not only improved their balance, coordination, musicality, rhythm and flexibility but from week one to week six their confidence to get out and about became an exciting result of the project. I am so honoured to have been able to facilitate this programme and I am delighted to have met forty-five wonderful individuals on the way. I am thrilled to have had the opportunity to grow the possibilities for dance: lengthening its reach and stretching our minds to create new opportunities for all to engage with. Doorstep Dances has been a powerful engagement project not only for the community but as an artist I feel I have grown with the people I met, experienced life through their eyes even if only for a brief time, but most importantly have become a part of a community of strong, joyful people who have a wealth of knowledge, understanding and now dance that can be shared with the world."

Helena McAteer on behalf of Borris Lacemakers Group

— *The Borris Lace by Post Creativity* in Older Age project

"Borris Lacemakers was established in 2016. The group is dedicated to the revival of Borris Lace which dates back to the late 1840s. We collaborate with local communities to restore this historical craft to ensure that it remains part of our local and national heritage.

During the most difficult days of the Covid Pandemic we collaborated with project partners on the Borris Lace by Post project. This exciting project was supported by Creative Ireland Carlow as part of the Creativity in Older Age fund 2021 in partnership with Carlow County Council Arts Office and the Craft Hub project.

Working remotely with artists Jules Michael and Ally Nolan in conjunction with Carlow Arts Office kept our lacemaking group focused and together during lockdown. The project, aimed at those over 65 years, reached out to the most vulnerable in our society to help them during a difficult time. We were delighted to include residents from Borris Lodge Nursing Home and we heard how people looked forward to receiving their monthly lace making kit by post, beautifully designed by Jules and Ally.

One of our members whose sister was going through cancer treatment while living on her own talked about how the project helped her during a most difficult period. My late Mother was resident in Borris Lodge and I know first-hand how much she enjoyed the project and how proud she was to see her creative piece on display during the final exhibition in Borris House."

The vision of Creative Ireland is that every person living in Ireland will have the opportunity to fully realise their creative potential. The vision is pursued through the Five-Pillars of the Creative Ireland Programme:

- Pillar 1: Enabling the Creative Potential of Every Child
- Pillar 2: Enabling Creativity in Every Community
- Pillar 3: Investing in our Creative and Cultural Infrastructure
- Pillar 4: The Creative Industries: Ireland as a Centre of Excellence in Media Production
- Pillar 5: Unifying our Global Reputation

Participation and access are central to the vision. Connecting artists and other creators to communities is also regarded as essential to realising the vision.

The vision for County Carlow is to create a future with culture and creativity at the centre to drive and promote quality of life, happiness, health, well-being and economic prosperity through a people led programme that enables and entwines culture and creativity in everyday lives to the benefit of all.

Our vision is guided by the ambitions of a number of important plans, outlined below, which recognise

the need to sustain, nurture and promote arts, culture and heritage in order to successfully deliver on the strategic objectives of these plans. Carlow County Development Plan 2022 to 2028

“To promote develop and maintain sustainable communities in the County through the provision of a range of facilities and services to meet the diverse and expanding needs of all residents thereby supporting community participation and social inclusion and improving the quality of life for everyone.

To protect, conserve, manage and enhance the natural built heritage features of the County to ensure the survival of their intrinsic value for future generations and to ensure they contribute to the future sustainable development of the County,”

Local Economic & Community Plan 2016–2021: Action Plan — Living in County Carlow

“To build thriving resilient, sustainable and inclusive communities.”

Carlow County Council Corporate Plan 2019–2024

“To provide a quality local government service for the people of County Carlow, through the protection and enhancement of the environment and improvement in the quality of life.”

National Library Strategy — Our Public Libraries 2022:

“The library is a centre of community and cultural activity. It is a catalyst for the imagination, encouraging and inspiring creativity within communities and among people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. It provides a welcoming and inclusive space for individuals and all communities, including new communities that may not yet be fully integrated into Irish society. It is a truly democratic service, accepting and supportive of all individuals, regardless of age, ability, culture or personal circumstance.”

County Carlow Local Arts Development Plan 2016–2021:

“A quality local government service for the people of County Carlow. In the spirit of mutual trust, we will work in an open effective and participative way for the common good of the people of County Carlow.”

County Carlow Public Participation Network Plan:

“To facilitate public participation and engagement by communities in decision making at local level contributing to wellness and sustainability.”

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019–2024

“Ensure a proper comprehension of the key risks and vulnerabilities of climate change.”

“Bring forward the implementation of climate resilient actions in a planned and proactive manner.”

“Ensure that climate adaptation considerations are mainstreamed into all plans and policies and integrated into all operations and functions of the local authority.”



Exhibition opening and project participants of *Borris Lace by Post, Creativity in Older Age Scheme Project*, Carlow. **Photographer:** Michael O'Rourke

3

The Creative Ireland Vision for County Carlow

The Creative Ireland values of *Collaboration, Communication, Community, Participation, Inclusivity and Empowerment* are reflected in the strategic priorities of the County Carlow Culture and Creativity Strategy.

Through the process of consultation and deliberations across the Culture and Creativity Team in the formation of this strategy, the following values specific to our strategy have been developed:

- **Accessibility and Inclusivity:** to ensure optimum participation that impacts all communities across County Carlow.
- **Leadership:** to ensure County Carlow is a thriving innovative place for culture and creativity to flourish.
- **Openness:** to ensure that there is genuine open authentic approach taken in order for communities to reach their fullest potential.
- **Collaboration:** to ensure that there is meaningful collaboration and partnership created and empowered, to enable the sharing of knowledge and skills for transformative outcomes.
- **Recognition:** that culture and creativity are valued as a vital resource and that the ambition of the strategic themes are shared, acknowledged and championed.



The Columban Way walking trail through the Black Stairs Mountains, Co. Carlow.
Photographer: Tony Plevin

4

How the Creative Ireland Programme Works

Principles and Values of Creative Communities

Creative Communities will continue to support local authorities as a well-being strategy through:

- **Policy** — Working in partnership across government supporting local authorities to deliver relevant local, regional, and national policies and priorities;
- **Practice** — Flexible, cross-cutting Culture and Creativity Teams providing an agile and adaptable approach central to the delivery of Creative Communities as it addresses locally-relevant priorities;
- **Participation** — Providing more opportunities for people to engage with and enjoy culture and creativity at local level in ways that underpin equality of access; and
- **Partnership** — Between central and local government, and our local culture and creative sectors.

This approach is based on addressing a shared, strategic agenda while delivering on the challenges and opportunities unique to each local authority area.

The Creative Communities partnership will be delivered in line with the following principles and values:

- i. Broaden access to, and participation in, cultural and creative activities locally.
- ii. Use culture and creativity as a catalyst for collaboration and innovation in achieving greater well-being, social cohesion, and economic development.
- iii. Strengthen the capacity of local authorities to integrate culture and creativity across place-making, regeneration, renewal, and the development of more vibrant, creative, and sustainable places.
- iv. Investing in culture and creativity to support environmental, social, and economic returns that help deliver local authority agendas – from local and regional, to national and international.
- v. Build on the agility and integrated approach of Culture and Creativity Teams to sustain further delivery of targeted collaborative programmes.

Mobile Music Machine performing one of their Care Concerts in Carlow, October 2022 with Orla Fallon and the Wild Turkeys, presented by Carlow Arts Office and Creative Ireland L-R: John Dover, Sean Walsh, Orla Fallon, Tom O Donoghue, Lynda O Connor.
Photographer: Michael O'Rourke



First Floor Gallery, Carlow County Museum, **Photographer:** Carlow County Museum



Cruinniu na n'Og 2022, Carlow Carnival of Collective Joy, Carlow. **Photographer:** Michael O'Rourke



5 The Strategic Priorities for Carlow County Council

Creative Communities (Pillar 2) is the focus for the Local Authority Culture and Creativity Strategic priorities. The following 4 strategic priorities and objectives have been identified through the processes of public consultation, learnings from the past 5-year plan and internal engagement through the Culture and Creativity Team.

Strategic Priority 1 — Connecting people, ideas and communities

Objective: Play a leadership role in building resilient communities with partners, to support a collaborative environment and provide greater opportunities for participation in cultural activities

Key Goals:

- Continue to direct strategic programming initiatives across the Culture and Creativity Team.
- Continue to grant support community led initiatives by prioritising longer term projects that showcase the very best.
- Support creative sector growth and identify changing community needs through working in partnership across agencies, organisations, creative practitioners and communities of interest.
- Prioritise diversity and socially inclusive initiatives.
- Improve quality of life through integrating culture and creativity with health, well-being and mental health programmes.
- Continue to respond to a growing older population and recognise County Carlow as an Age Friendly County with customised culture and creativity initiatives to enhance their community engagement.
- Continue to champion the voice of young people and provide opportunities for creative engagement.

Strategic Priority 2 — Capture and Champion the leadership role Culture and Creativity Plays

Objective: Play a leadership role in strengthening our collaborative cross sectorial network to develop innovative programmes that are embedded and communicated both internally and externally.

Key Goals:

- Through our Culture and Creativity Team encourage multidisciplinary team working to provide a stimulating work environment and a shared common goal to deliver the Culture and Creativity Strategy for County Carlow 2023–2027.
- Invest in and develop the Culture and Creativity Team's capacity and experience to become more strategic in order to maximise and prioritise the potential of programmes and strategic development for the longer-term gain across County Carlow.
- Prioritise the appointment of new roles to the Culture and Creativity Team that include, Climate Change, Biodiversity, Tourism, Intercultural, Planning and Economic Development expertise.
- Continue to Communicate locally and nationally the importance of Culture and Creativity at the core of public policy whilst recognising the challenges that delivering the outputs of the role presents including resource and capacity issues.
- Continue to stress the importance of embedding culture in the national planning process with Creative Ireland.
- Champion cultural drivers to the local economy by commissioning an economic impact report for County Carlow of the role Culture and Creativity plays in Economic development.

Strategic Priority 3— Celebrate and Cherish County Carlow's People, Natural Environment, History and Heritage

Objective: Promote awareness and appreciation of the county's rich history, heritage, culture, natural and built environment and celebrate pride of place in our communities.

Key Goals:

- Consider imaginative ways to lead and engage with the creative sector that leads climate change awareness of both adaptation and mitigation.
- Maximise the potential of existing forums and networks, including on-line platforms, to support connectivity among County Carlow's cultural and creative community.
- Promote awareness of and support the development of County Carlow's world class cultural offering, as a leading cultural destination by working in partnership with Creative Ireland, Fáilte Ireland – Ireland's Ancient East and other stakeholders.
- Develop greater appreciation, awareness and support of County Carlow's rich history, including the promotion of the Irish Language, through partnership, programming and collaboration.
- Develop greater appreciation, safeguarding, awareness and support of County Carlow's natural and built heritage through partnership, programming and collaboration.
- Advance international opportunities and linkages through County Carlow's Twinning and Diaspora Strategy acknowledging the Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council as County Carlow's Culture Champion.

- Develop a strong, coherent and shared message of culture and creativity in County Carlow across tourism, enterprise and other development organisations.

Strategic Priority 4— Build Capacity across the Culture and Creativity Sector

Objective: Build capacity with our communities to generate creative and culture sector growth through local leadership and ownership.

Key Goals:

- Work with the Public Participation Network to develop capacity building and training programmes that identify, support and lead Cultural Ambassadors and champions across the county in order to strengthen the representation of Culture and Creativity at community level and appreciation of the county.
- Direct resource supports to help build capacity within communities to ensure longer-term project development and sustainability.
- Support and broker key strategic partnership opportunities for the creative and culture sector to better work in Carlow and enable them to maximise creative engagement opportunities.
- Work with our Local Enterprise Team, local industries and education partners to drive creative innovation and longer-term professional progression and development of creatives living and working in County Carlow.
- Target programming in order to become more inclusive and support greater access to creativity to ensure linguistic, ethnic and social inclusion.
- Broker existing relationships through our Arts Museum, Heritage, Library Service and Visual in order to maximise and target enhanced capacity building programme for and with our communities.



*Door Step Dances, Creativity in Older Age Scheme Project, Carlow with Dance Artist, Róisín Whelan, Visual Artist, Bridget Flannery and project participant, Rosemary Adamson, **Photographer:** Patrick Bramley*

6

Implementation by the Carlow County Council Culture and Creativity Team

Carlow County Council has a Culture and Creativity Team in place to guide and oversee implementation of this Strategy.

The Culture and Creativity Teams are the cornerstone of Creative Communities across all 31 local authorities in Ireland. These teams bring together a significant range and level of expertise and, in many cases, include professionals from architecture, archives, the arts, climate action, community, enterprise and environmental development, heritage, information and communication technologies, Irish language, libraries, spatial planning, tourism and more. This depth of technical expertise affords each local authority a level of insight, resources and delivery experience, which few other public or private sector organisations can match.

The role of this team is to:

- Provide a collective forum for the ambition of culture and creativity within the local authority.
- Focus on diversity and inclusivity and enable harder to reach communities to participate in cultural and creative activities.
- Build on existing in-house expertise and strategies across areas of well-being, social cohesion and economic development to leverage culture and creativity to deliver on targeted local authority agendas.

- Enable a shift in how the cultural and creative sector is valued within and across local authorities and ensure that culture and creativity is embedded across local authority plans, policies and project teams.
- Drive cross-collaborative actions that support change and positive outcomes locally, potentially between local authorities at regional level and
- Be innovative and take risks – try new projects and new ways of working.

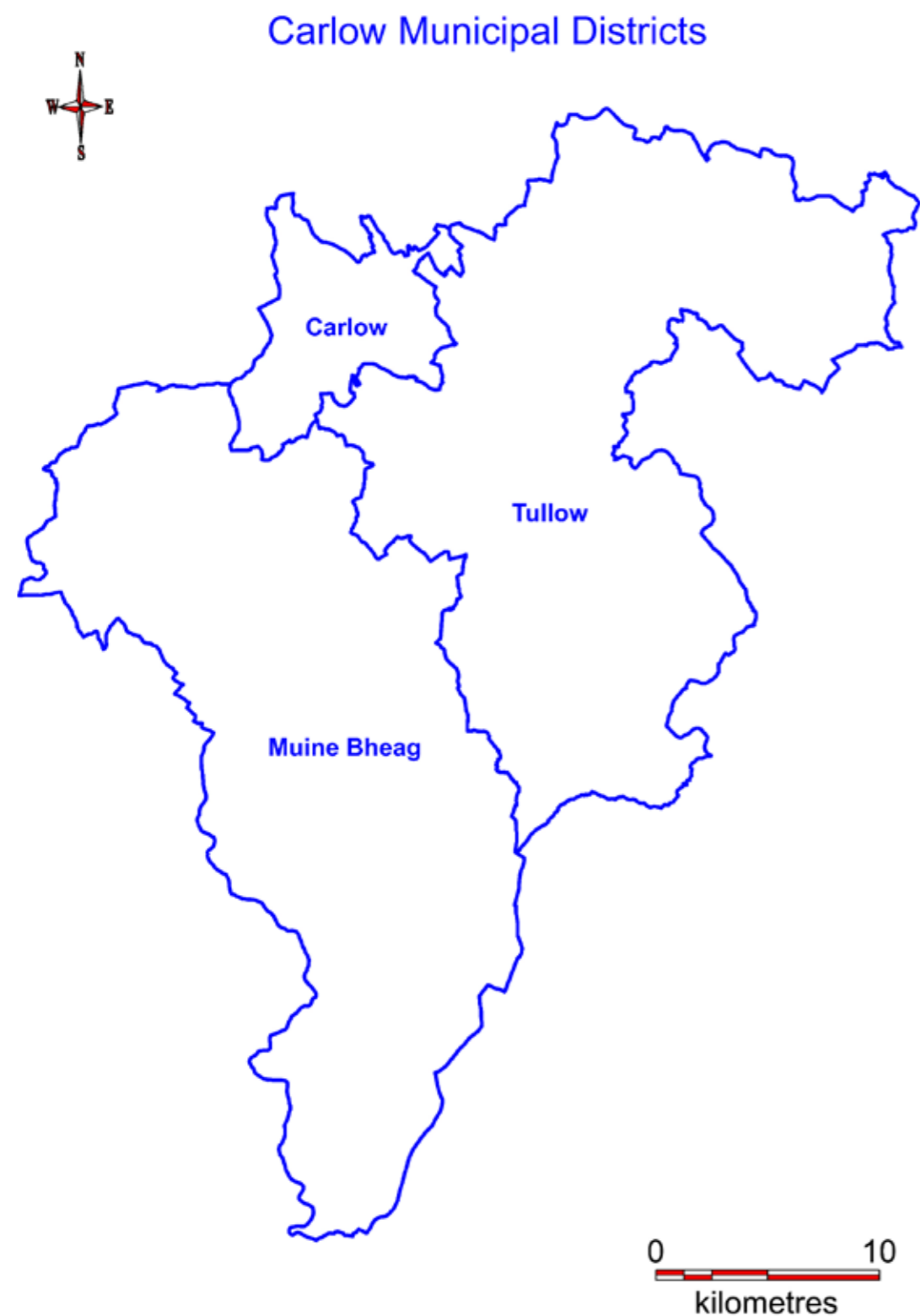
The delivery of the Strategy is led by the Head of Finance, ICT & Culture and the members of the Culture and Creativity Team. These structures and processes are a critical success factor that will enable Creative Communities to deliver on strategic priorities for County Carlow.



The River Barrow, Go with The Flow River Adventures, Clashganny, Co. Carlow.
Photographer: Tony Plevin

Borris Viaduct, Borris, Co. Carlow,
Photographer: Tony Plevin

Map of Carlow Local Authority Area and Municipal Districts



Appendix

Culture, Libraries and Digital Development, Tourism, Enterprise and Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee

Ollr. Michael Doran (Chair) Elected Member
 Ollr. John Murphy, Elected Member
 Ollr. Tom. O'Neill, Elected Member
 Ollr. Andrea Dalton, Elected Member
 Ollr. John McDonald, Elected Member
 Ollr. John Pender, Elected Member
 Brian O'Farrell, Business/Commercial/
 Chambers Ireland
 Eileen O'Rourke, Community / Voluntary
 Jolly O'Rock, Community / Voluntary

Carlow County Council Cultural Team

Mr Pat Delaney, Head of Finance, ICT. & Culture
 Ms Sinead Dowling, Arts Officer & Creative Ireland
 Coordinator
 Ms Aileen Nolan, Arts Office
 Ms Kelly Mooney, Arts Office
 Ms Margaret Moore, A/Senior Executive Officer &
 A/Chief Officer of Carlow LCDC
 Mr John Shortall, County Librarian
 Mr Dermot Mulligan, County Carlow Museum
 Ms Emma Lucy O'Brien, CEO VISUAL Centre for
 Contemporary Art
 Mr. Eoin Sullivan, Heritage Officer

Partners and Collaborators

Creative Ireland
 Carlow Tourism
 Carlow Local Enterprise Office
 VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art
 Carlow College, St. Patrick's
 SETU, Carlow
 Carlow Arts Festival
 Kilkenny Carlow Education and Training Board
 Carlow Regional Youth Services
 Carlow Local Sports Partnership
 Carlow Chamber of Commerce
 Glór Cheatharlach
 Carlow Public Participation Network
 County Carlow Development Partnership
 Carlow Historical and Archaeological Society
 Heritage Council of Ireland
 Fáilte Ireland
 Healthy Carlow


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Creative Ireland Grant recipients and Carlow Culture and Creativity team members. Carlow.
Photographer: Michael O'Rourke

A Government of Ireland Initiative.
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places and communities through creativity.*