



13th November 2017

To the Cathaoirleach & Each Member of Carlow County Council

Re: Creative Ireland Carlow Progress Report

Creative Ireland is a legacy programme from Ireland 2016 and is a five year government initiative, from 2017 to 2022, which places creativity at the center of public policy. It is a high-level, high-ambition, all of government initiative 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.

Creative Ireland takes the form of five key pillars:

- 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- Ireland as a Centre of Excellence in Media Production,
- Pillar 5- Unifying our Global Reputation.

Local authorities have been tasked with a crucial role in the overall local delivery of the entire Creative Ireland programme and are exclusively mandated, through their Cultural Teams, to lead Pillar 2 of the programme – Enabling Creativity in Every Community with overlaps where appropriate to a particular county of the other pillars.

Creative Ireland Carlow is led by Carlow's Cultural Team, under the Directorship of Pat Delaney Head of Finance, Information Systems, Arts and Culture; Coordinated by Sinead Dowling Arts Officer the team includes Aileen Nolan and Kelly Mooney, Arts Office; Dermot Mulligan, Curator Carlow County Museum; John Shortall, (Acting) County Librarian; Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Officer, Community, Recreation and Amenity and Ann Mulrooney, Chief Executive Officer VISUAL.

Monday 12th June saw the launch of the Creative Ireland County Carlow Activation Programme 2017 coordinated by the Arts Office, its aim was

DIRECT LINES: CODE 059

Carlow MD Area Engineer	9136272	Information Technology	9136215	Fire Service & Building Control	9131144
Planning	9170346	Housing	9136296	County Museum	9131554
Human Resources	9170314	Waste & Environment	9136231	Rent Payments	9172497
Muinebhéag MD Area Engineer	9172415	Rates	9172489	Recreation & Amenity	9170377
Local Enterprise Office	9129783	County Library	9129705	Arts	9136203
Register of Electors	9170313	Community	9136204	Motor Taxation	9170342
Roads / Transportation	9170379	Loan Payments	9172491		



to encourage communities and citizens to engage, participate and enable their creative potential. In this programme Countywide 98 promotional events and initiatives under the areas of Heritage, Arts, Community and Literary were scheduled and supported.

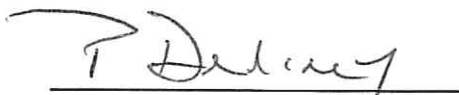
During July the Cultural Team of Carlow County Council announced a new round of Creative Ireland grants, which produced the successful hosting of County Carlow's '**Samhain Festival Trail**' over the Halloween period, coordinated through the Arts Office, where 11 artist and community led events took place in Carlow town, Myshall, Ballon, Tinryland and Hacketstown. Groups such as Aspiro, Take A Part Carlow, The Irish Wheelchair Association, Tinryland NS, Ballon Improvement Group, CRYS, An Gairdin Beo and St. Johns Caring Centre all hosted their own Samhain celebration as part of the Festival which saw huge mobilisation of communities with great attendance at all events in particular at the 'Myshall Historical Ghost Walk' where over 120 took part in the festivities. Another triumph was the 'Family Celebration of Oiche Samhain' at Ducketts Grove led by the Tullow Development Association, which proved to be a sell out success with over 400 attendees and 100 participants on the night!

The Culture Team are now in the early stages of producing County Carlow's Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022. Each county through the Cultural Teams has been tasked with developing a strategy which is hoped to be launched early in the new year.

Key Dates to Note

Public Engagement events to feed into the process of developing the strategy will take place on **29th November** in the Municipal district of Carlow (Carlow Central Library) and on **4th December** in the Municipal district of Muinebheag (Library).

The National Creative Ireland team are planning a National Creative Ireland conference at Dublin Castle provisional date **13th December 2017**. (TBC).



Pat Delaney
Director of Finance, Information
Technology & Culture (Libraries,
Arts & County Museum)



Sinead Dowling
County Arts Officer