



Kilkenny County Council
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE
CHILL CHAINNIGH

Public Art Policy



DERDIMUS by artist Michelle Byrne

Adopted by Kilkenny County Council on

COVER:**DERDIMUS by artist Michelle Byrne
2018 commission on completion of the N76 Callan Road Realignment**

The proposed site for the artwork was the historical townland of Derdimus (or Doire-diomas, meaning ‘the oak grove’), one mile outside Kilkenny town. The artist took this information as her starting point and proposed the creation of a four-metre-tall limestone sculpture, titled Derdimus Tower. Another meaning for Derdimus in Irish is ‘we derive’. This definition inspired her initial research, which investigated the rich history and geographical features of Kilkenny, imagining how the city may have looked hundreds of years ago. This site-specific sculpture takes inspiration from the oldest built structure in Kilkenny, St Canice’s Round Tower, and its 360-degree views over the surrounding landscape – the vantage point that prompted the artist to consider the city’s historic topography. Kilkenny is characterised by medieval limestone buildings and pavements so Michelle felt that Kilkenny Limestone was an obvious choice of material. On the surface of the piece, there is a network of raised polished lines. The pattern for these lines is based on a detailed study of an 1830s Ordnance Survey map of Kilkenny, depicting the networks of fields, lanes, roads and the river surrounding the city. Though abstract in appearance, the map pattern is totally accurate and can still be read.

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Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out Kilkenny County Council's policy on the development and conservation of public art in the county.
- 1.2 It is important to clarify and communicate our policy and procedures in the public art commissioning processes to all our stakeholders, from staff to elected representatives and from artists to communities.
- 1.3 Public art policy is important to ensure that as a local authority we can build on our experience to date of contemporary commissioning.
- 1.4 We are committed to further developing this experience through the progression of public art commissioning processes that are in line with national and international best practice and that makes best use of the opportunities presented to communities, artists, arts organisations, partners and Kilkenny County Council in the commissioning of new public art projects that 'creates a dialogue with a people, a time and a place.'¹
- 1.5 Our intention is to develop new commissioning processes that allow local input to inspire artists.

Vision for Public Art in Kilkenny

- 2.1 Our vision is to ensure that people who live in and visit Kilkenny can experience captivating, challenging, culturally diverse high quality public art and public spaces.
- 2.2 Public art in Kilkenny aims to identify the uniqueness of the city and county and to celebrate local distinctiveness.
- 2.3 By commissioning professional artists we aim to explore, question, recognise and reveal the characteristics of Kilkenny in the twenty-first century.
- 2.4 Kilkenny County Council's intention is to engage and exchange local knowledge to build a Public Art Programme that is in line with Irish and international best practice.
- 2.5 We will lead by example in the development of diverse and distinctive public art projects.
- 2.6 We will engage specialist public art expertise in order to nurture public art that welcomes, animates and enlivens, as well as provides a moment to pause, a brief interval in the midst of a busy city, county, community and society.

¹ Phrase taken from the Public Art: *Per Cent for Art Scheme* – General National Guidelines – 2004, Scope of the Scheme, pg. 16

- 2.7 As new infrastructure is developed in Kilkenny funding will become available through the Government Per Cent for Art Scheme and other sources.
- 2.8 It is important for Kilkenny County Council to present a clear and confident policy position for future public art commissions, which ultimately create opportunities for public engagement and interaction with contemporary artists and ideas.

Background and Kilkenny's Public Art Collection to Date

- 3.1 Kilkenny has a strong public art collection.
- 3.2 Over a long period of time Kilkenny County Council have developed a range of commissions, often in collaboration with a variety of partners and stakeholders.
- 3.3 Particularly since the 1990s approximately forty permanent and thirteen temporary public sculptures were commissioned and installed in a range of locations in the city and county.
- 3.4 In more recent times a move towards socially engaged and collaborative arts practice has evolved, where local groups and communities of interest have collaborated directly with artists and inputted to the development of a project, under the authorship of the artist.
- 3.5 This approach is evident in commissioning practice in Kilkenny and is in line with best practice in Ireland and internationally.
- 3.6 A number of short case studies have been included in this policy document giving examples of recent public art commissions in Kilkenny.
- 3.7 For further information on Kilkenny's public art collection and commissioning history please contact the Arts Office.

CASE STUDY # 1 – THE LAST LOT

Landmarks come and go. Sometimes the skyline changes so fast we don't get a chance to reflect on one view before it becomes another. We only realise it has changed after it's gone. There is however a little breather, right at the end of a building's life, when we can have a final look around and say goodbye. When we can consider the purpose of the building, and give some thought to those who used it. We need an excuse though, and in the case of Kilkenny Livestock Mart on Barrack Street, The Last Lot was that excuse. The audiences walk through the pens and auctions rooms was the result of collaboration between Kilkenny County Council Arts Office, artists, farmers, office staff and developers. There are many memories connected to this building, The Last Lot offered the space to unlock many more.

Text from:

Talking Birds Theatre Company and Mary Butler, Arts Officer, Kilkenny County Council



The Last Lot

Socially Engaged Theatre Project

Produced to mark the closing of the Kilkenny Livestock Mart in Barrack Street – 2007.

Image shows Kilkenny Artist Alan Counihan acting as a participant in the performance.

Funding for Public Art in Kilkenny

- 4.1 One major source of funding for public art commissioning in Kilkenny is the Government Per Cent for Art Scheme.
- 4.2 The Per Cent for Art Scheme is a government funded programme whereby an additional fund of up to 1% of construction costs of a publicly-funded infrastructure or building, can be applied for by Kilkenny County Council to commission original, site and context specific works of art. The 1% is subject to a cap of €500,000. See further section on 'Budget Limits under the Per Cent for Art Scheme', page [7].
- 4.3 The Per Cent for Art Scheme supports the commissioning of artists and artworks across all contemporary artforms for example, from visual art to music and from temporary projects to permanent artworks.
- 4.4 The fund is available across all government departments and Kilkenny County Council may develop future opportunities where it can work in partnership with others engaged in public art commissioning in Kilkenny such as the Office of Public Works (OPW), the National Roads Authority (NRA), Hospitals, Schools, etc.
- 4.5 Kilkenny County Council will also research other opportunities for funding for the Public Art Programme, from either public or private sources, where there is an agreed approach and common principles between partners. A brief history of the scheme is set out below.

Government Per Cent for Art Scheme – A Brief History

- 5.1 The Per Cent for Art Scheme was first introduced in Ireland in 1978 when the OPW commissioned new artworks based on the principles of Per Cent for Art.
- 5.2 In 1986 the Department of Environment established a similar scheme, which was utilised by County Councils and in 1996, based on the recommendations of a review to Government, the scheme was revised and extended to all government departments and public bodies with construction budgets.
- 5.3 In 2004, following a detailed consultation and review process, the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism published the National Guidelines on Public Art: Per Cent for Art Scheme. These were developed in close partnership with key government departments including for example the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government; the Department of Health and Children and the Department of Education. Other principal partners included public bodies such as the Arts Council of Ireland, the Office of Public Works (OPW) and the National Roads Authority (NRA).
- 5.4 Further information on the background to the Per Cent for Art Scheme can be found within the National Guidelines on Public Art which can be downloaded from the Irish public art resource website at: <http://www.publicart.ie/main/commissioning/funding/per-cent-for-art/>

Community, Public Art and Engagement

- 6.1 Public art creates opportunities for artists to work directly with people and communities, ranging from small social and community groups to wider dialogues with people from a particular area.
- 6.2 Public art also has the potential to create new communities, which come together as the project evolves.
- 6.3 Kilkenny County Council is keen to support public engagement with the Public Art Programme in collaboration with commissioned artists.
- 6.4 This support will aim to nurture active and creative citizenship through contemporary commissioning while also exploring and challenging preconceived ideas about what public art is in Kilkenny in the twenty-first century.
- 6.5 With this awareness and experience of public art process in mind, Kilkenny County Council recognises that one type of public art project does not fit all.
- 6.6 Getting agreement from diverse groups and multiple stakeholders can often be difficult, but equally hearing the voices least heard is also very valuable.
- 6.7 Kilkenny County Council's experience to date in the commissioning of new artworks in public contexts has shown that artists need and deserve to be supported as the work develops, in the research, development, realisation and evaluation of ideas and projects.

- 6.8 By providing this support and commitment in Kilkenny we aim to expand engagement, exploration, expression and appreciation around the value of public art while not compromising on the quality of the process or the outcome.
- 6.9 Our experience also shows that public art practice when working at community level points towards the commissioning of new art works and projects in public contexts which can focus on art for social change and the empowerment of community members who come together to create with the artists.

Supporting Public Art in Kilkenny

- 7.1 Kilkenny County Council's commitment to achieving this vision is backed by a clear commissioning framework.
- 7.2 This framework flows from this public art policy and is in line with National Guidelines on Public Art: Per Cent for Art Scheme.²
- 7.3 Turning policy and principles into actions is important particularly as public art commissioning can be a complex area of our local authority work programme and clarity is needed not just around public spending but also through each stage of a project from the idea and proposal through to production and evaluation.

Kilkenny's Public Art Management Group (PAMG)

- 8.1 Kilkenny County Council has established a PAMG, which oversees the conservation and development of public art in Kilkenny.
- 8.2 The group combines a breadth of knowledge and experience from departments across Kilkenny County Council along with the recommended independent arts expertise.
- 8.3 The main aim of the PAMG is to explore and support the potential for public art in Kilkenny.
- 8.4 The PAMG is responsible for all decisions around public art commissioning and the collection in Kilkenny.
- 8.5 The PAMG will maintain clear connections with relevant partners and stakeholders including for example relevant Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs), Elected Representatives, wider local authority staff, communities, artists and arts organisations, etc.
- 8.6 The PAMG has a clear and transparent reporting procedures on their work and decision-making.
- 8.7 The group will monitor the public art policy as it is put into action and, based on feedback gathered from evaluation processes, it is responsible for updating the policy as needed.
- 8.8 The full Terms of Reference of the PAMG are included in this document, in Appendix 1.

² The National Guidelines on Public Art were published in 2004 by the Department of Arts, Sport & Tourism and outline the best practice principles and commissioning options for the development of new public art projects commissioned through the *Per Cent for Art Scheme* in Ireland.

CASE STUDY # 2 – WOODSTOCK PROMENADE

Artists Professional Development Project – Training for Real – 2009

This project was designed to address the need for specialist training for artists in public art skills and working to commission, with a focus on local rurally based artists who lack the opportunities for support which urban practitioners have. This proposal was also inspired by a visit to the Woodstock estate, which is managed by Kilkenny County Council, and the opportunity to link the proposal with the site and the ongoing restoration work taking place there.

Woodstock Promenade provided artists with a 'live' training opportunity, offering the opportunity to work on commissions within a structured training programme.

Artists gained experience of the public art process, from selection and development of design proposals to installation of a series of site-specific artworks and in each case a high quality public art product was delivered at the culmination of the project.

Throughout they dealt with local issues, undertook extensive research and public consultation, and participated in different community involvement processes.

Above all, they gained new skills and confidence, which have benefited their subsequent professional careers and has made them more skilled for local employment.

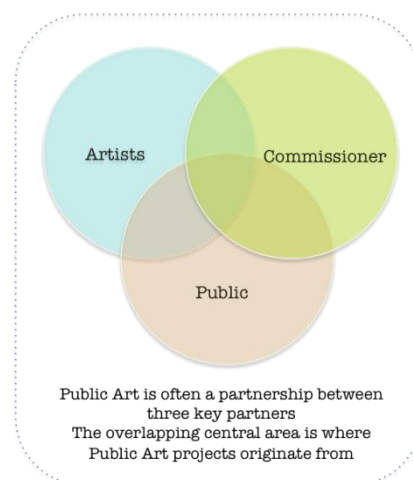


Above: *Any day here teaches proportion, any walk sketches infinity.* Carmel Cummins, Poet

Below: Textile Dress by Caroline Schofield, Artist

Links to the Kilkenny Arts Office

- 9.1 The work of the PAMG is supported and coordinated by Kilkenny Arts Office.
- 9.2 This ensures that previous commissioning experience in the County is valued and put to use in order to improve future projects.
- 9.3 It also gives the Public Art Programme the chance to benefit from the Arts Office's broader ways of working, including engaging with artists and communities; experience of commission project management across a range of artforms; as well as communication approaches within the County Council and also with the wider public including press and media. In turn, the Arts Office benefits from each new commissioning experience through the development of working relationships centred on the artist's idea and the public's engagement.



- 9.4 Kilkenny Arts Office brings very relevant experience to the Public Art Programme and will continue to develop good working relationships with project managers, curators, artists, arts organisations as well as local communities and partners.
- 9.5 Generally, public art commissions are a collaboration between three key partners – the Artist, the Commissioner and the Public. Where these partners intersect and overlap is the context from which a project develops (see diagram over).
- 9.6 Equally the Public Art Programme will highlight the importance of the arts in Kilkenny and help to raise the profile of Kilkenny Arts Office.

Public Art and Artistic Expertise

- 10.1 Public art commissioning is a dynamic area of work for commissioners, particularly when working with the privilege of public funding.
- 10.2 All partners need to be carefully supported so that the best possible outcome can be achieved.
- 10.3 Building and maintaining good working relationships needs time and support, across a range of communities, partners and stakeholders.
- 10.4 The National Guidelines on Public Art emphasise the benefit of working with others who have knowledge and expertise of the intricacies of public art commissioning processes, in order to learn from any past commission experience and to make the most of future opportunities.
- 10.5 Kilkenny County Council values the specialist advice of practicing professional artists, the Arts Officer, and curators in the development of the Public Art Programme.
- 10.6 It is committed to working within best practice guidelines to make sure that this knowledge and experience is integrated into all stages of the programme and commissions.

Securing Funding under the Per Cent for Art Scheme

- 11.1 Kilkenny County Council will ensure that the Per Cent for Art Scheme is included in all capital budgets in order to maximise on the potential for public art in Kilkenny. This process is supported at a Senior Management level within the local authority.
- 11.2 Within Kilkenny County Council the relevant department staff and budget holders will ensure that the Per Cent for Art Scheme is included in the overall capital budget estimate for all new projects.
- 11.3 Next the staff will secure confirmation that the Per Cent for Art Scheme funding will be made available as part of their overall capital estimate from the relevant Government department or public body.
- 11.4 The Per Cent for Art Scheme budget is ring-fenced i.e. it is only available for artworks and public art projects and not for any other purpose such as an architectural improvement, design features or landscaping, etc.

- 11.5 The amount of the Per Cent for Art Scheme budget relates to the total capital construction cost, calculated before VAT and in accordance with the limits noted below.
- 11.6 The National Guidelines on Public Art also confirms the application of the Per Cent for Art Scheme to Design Build or Public Private Partnership (PPP) capital construction projects, by stating that local authorities should ensure that the scheme is embedded within the specification and contract.
- 11.7 The Per Cent for Art Scheme applies to a wide range of capital programmes in Kilkenny including for example – public housing projects (social and affordable schemes); urban and village renewal schemes; transport and roads; public buildings such as libraries, public offices, arts buildings including art centres, theatres or artists studios; and conservation works carried out to public buildings and sites and any large scale long term capital projects set out in the County Development Plan.
- 11.8 Through the Public Art Programme Kilkenny County Council is keen to make creative connections between capital projects and contemporary artists and communities.

Budget Limits under the Per Cent for Art Scheme

- 12.1 The limits under the scheme are set to a maximum of 1% of the overall capital budget before VAT and subject to the various limits, as outlined in the National Guidelines on Public Art:
- Construction projects costing up to €5,000,000 may include a maximum art budget of €50,000.
 - For projects costing between €5,000,000 and €20,000,000, a maximum art budget of €125,000.
 - For projects costing between €20,000,000 and €50,000,000, a maximum art budget of €350,000.
 - For projects costing in excess of €50,000,000, a maximum art budget of €500,000.
- 12.2 These figures should not be regarded as an overall limit for art projects as in many cases there may be potential to supplement this with other funding attracted from other sources (e.g. private sponsorship and pooling of resources, etc) through a partnership approach.

Pooling of Funding and Resources

- 13.1 The National Guidelines on Public Art states that in 'order to allow greater flexibility in the use of funds under the Scheme, the pooling of funds may be adopted. Funding may be pooled within an agency or on an inter-agency basis. Some public bodies may wish to gather funding from different projects in the one area to achieve a more substantial art project.'³

³ See: Public Art: *Per Cent for Art Scheme* – General National Guidelines – 2004, Funding, 4.3 Pooling, pg. 21

- 13.2 This budget is ring-fenced for the Public Art Programme and all aspects of artist's research, residencies and projects, and other related costs such as documentation and evaluation are all drawn from this central code.
- 13.3 All decisions on the allocation of the central budget are the responsibility of Kilkenny's PAMG.

Importance of Support in Kind

- 14.1 As a local authority Kilkenny County Council is also aware of the positive impact that support in kind can have on a project or programme.
- 14.2 This may come from project partners or communities for example.
- 14.3 There is also recognition of the input of the wider staff group within Kilkenny County Council and we are keen to develop a cross-department creative approach to support the work of the PAMG.
- 14.4 Support in kind may come in many different forms, including having access to time and advice and also through access to facilities such as meeting spaces, etc.
- 14.5 In our previous experience of commissioning public art projects Kilkenny County Council has seen the significance that support in kind can make to artists and communities as they develop projects, and where possible we are keen to work in partnership with others to develop this further.

Guiding Principles

- 15.1 Kilkenny County Council has adopted a number of guiding principles in order to ensure quality commissioning practice in the County.
- 15.2 For the next phase of the Public Art Programme Kilkenny County Council aims to lead by example while also being aware of best practice nationally and internationally.
- 15.3 These principles are informed by previous commissioning experience and in line with the National Guidelines on Public Art⁴ which state that:

Good commissioning practice prioritises:

Time – Commissioning public art essentially requires time. Taking a good idea and turning it into a reality requires a large amount of planning, initiative and the ability to deal with the unforeseen. In planning the project, time must be allowed for productive dialogue for artists to respond to the brief, for research and development and for commissioner feedback.

Early Integration – The artist should be engaged or commissioned at the same time that the capital construction project is conceived. This will ensure early dialogue between the commissioner and the artist, including input into design decisions that may later affect the context and the realisation of the arts project.

⁴ Based on Public Art: *Per Cent for Art Scheme* – General National Guidelines – 2004, Implementation of the Scheme, 5.1 Best Practice Principles, pg. 27

Artistic Advice – The utilisation of professional artistic advice at the earliest possible stage in planning projects will maximise the opportunity for a meaningful input by artists. Professional artistic advice may be sought from experienced artists, public art commissioners and curators, local authority Arts Offices or international commissioning organisations, for example. This advice is essential in the development of a clear and creative vision for the commissioning process.

Artists Brief – A clear, researched and unambiguous brief creates a creative invitation and framework for artists to respond to. The quality of the brief affects the quality of the artists' submissions.

Responsibility of the Commissioning Body and Support Staff – Commissioned artists may be undertaking work of a nature that has never been seen previously in the context of the capital construction project or the community where it will be realised; therefore support from the commissioning body is seen as an essential input. Similar to specialised procurement in the fields of engineering and architecture, public art commissioning requires the specialist skills of a professional arts project manager (such as the Public Arts Officer, Curator or Arts Officer) to coordinate all aspects of the commission, and assist with projects and problems as they arise. Public art specialist staff will deal with policy development, project management and public engagement. Where possible this expense should be absorbed into the overall project budget as a category of consultancy fees, along with other professional consultancy fees such as that of the Quantity Surveyor, Architect, Engineer, etc and on a reasonable basis. Where this is not possible it must be borne in mind that the funding under the Per Cent for Art Scheme should be used to the greatest extent possible for the commissioning or acquisition of art.

How We Commission Public Art

16.1 The Irish Public Art resource website www.publicart.ie describes public art commissioning as a 'dynamic process'⁵ which requires commitment from commissioners, artists and communities in the process of:

- Setting out a vision.
- Building good relations.
- Being flexible with time.
- Allowing for dialogue and discussions.
- Openness to ideas and changes that may arise through the process.
- Support with problems and issues as they arise.

16.2 Kilkenny County Council is aware of these various stages to the commissioning process and know that these stages are not necessary sequential.

⁵ See <http://www.publicart.ie/main/commissioning/commissioning-process/> [Accessed: 15 Oct 2014]

16.3 We are mindful of the benefit, culturally and socially, in supporting creative working relationships between the local authority as the commissioner, and artists and communities.

Commissioning Options

17.1 Public art projects can be developed through a number of commissioning options. These include:

Open Competition – Where commission opportunities are advertised publicly. The Commission Brief may ask artists to submit information for example early stage ideas, examples of previous work, budget outlines and timeframe, etc.

Limited Competition – As above but not necessarily advertised. This option may seek to select a smaller number of artists. For example, in consultation with specialist public art expertise, the commissioner may shortlist 6-8 artists and invite them to submit a proposal and relevant information again based on a Commission Brief.

Direct Invitation or Purchase – This option may see the commissioner invite one artist to respond to a Commission Brief again in consultation with specialist public art expertise. In some cases artists may have already made, produced or exhibited work which makes creative connections with the commission context and the option of the direct purchase of work is available.

17.2 While in the past the majority of public art commissions were advertised through open competition, the 1996 Government adapted report and review of public art practice in Ireland stated that 'open competitions are costly and time-consuming for all parties and should be the exception rather than the rule'.⁶

17.3 While not ruling out open competition options, Kilkenny's PAMG will work to find the most suitable process for each commission as it arises, within the available capacity to realise the project from budget considerations through to staff time and resources.

17.4 As well as the involvement of artistic advice in the Public Art Programme, Kilkenny County Council may also wish to work with independent bodies and agencies to project manage new commissions, which can be supported as related costs from the overall public art programme budget.

Selection of Artists and Selection Panels

18.1 Based on best practice principles Kilkenny County Council will ensure that the processes used to select artists are open, transparent and accountable.

18.2 As a dynamic area of local authority work and in line with the National Guidelines on Public Art, selection panels will be made up of a majority of artistic expertise from the artform being commissioned, as well as other relevant expertise for the particular context or community.

⁶ Public Art Research Project – Steering Group Report to Government (1996), Section 3 – Summary of Findings, pg. 4.

18.3 Kilkenny County Council is keen to make use of the advice given to Selection Panels set out in the National Guidelines on Public Art⁷, where panels are advised to:

- Remain open.
- Undergo briefing on the scope of the capital project funding the Per Cent for Art Scheme. Those who are new to public art commissioning should also be briefed on the role, nature and potential of artists and what they can bring to a project.
- Review the commission aims and objectives, set out at the planning of the project.
- Review criteria for submissions, outlined in the artists brief.
- Attend artists presentations, where necessary.
- Assess submissions and select project(s) for development and realisation.
- Provide evaluation feedback on the selection process to the commissioning body.

18.4 The final make up of selection panels will be the responsibility of Kilkenny's PAMG and each Selection Panel will prepare a short report for the PAMG's records.

Range of Artforms

19.1 Kilkenny County Council has to date commissioned a range of projects in public spaces and social contexts, across a range of artforms. Brief examples are profiled in the Case Studies included in this policy document. Kilkenny County Council has commissioned public art projects in a number of artforms.

19.2 It is possible to commission any artform through the Per Cent for Art Scheme and as a commissioner we are keen to broaden the range of public art projects that we commission and to test new ways of working with artists and communities. The list of artforms and arts practices that can be commissioned under the scheme include:

- Visual Art
- Music
- Dance
- Film
- Theatre
- Opera
- Literature
- Traditional Arts
- Architecture
- Circus and Street Arts

⁷ Taken from the Public Art: *Per Cent for Art Scheme* – General National Guidelines – 2004, Stage 2 – Selection, pg. 32

19.3 This may be explored in partnership with existing arts organisations or partners in Kilkenny and will aim to increase the diversity of projects and artforms that we commission.

Encouraging Innovation in Public Art

20.1 As a commissioner we are keen to encourage innovation within the Public Art Programme.

20.2 We are also aware that works under the Per Cent for Art Scheme can be of any duration, temporary or permanent.

20.3 In line with this Kilkenny's Public Art Programme will aim to encourage collaborations and develop processes that will encourage experimentation and support the creation of new work. Emerging practice may come from artists who wish to develop a new aspect of their practice or collaborate in a new artform.

20.4 Equally, there may be opportunities for artists to revisit ideas and previous projects. New does not necessary mean better. Opportunities to revisit failure, or points of near of perceived failure can be useful and can provide creative start points.

20.5 Where possible or suitable Kilkenny County Council may look at ways to develop mentoring processes that are artist-led, which can help to support innovation and experimentation.

Irish and International Best Practice in Public Art

21.1 As part of the development of the Public Art Programme it is important for Kilkenny County Council to keep up to date on developments such as policy, commissioning practices and project outcomes, by other organisations, nationally and internationally. This gives a clear context to the work we do.

21.2 A list of the types of Irish and international research carried out as part of the public art development process is outlined in a Research Register included in this document in Appendix 2.

21.3 International examples of note are the Public Art Policies from Auckland, New Zealand and Sydney, Australia. The policy documents developed by Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council also provided us with clear examples of goals and principles when commissioning contemporary art.

21.4 As one brief example, the 'New Rules of Public Art' developed by the Bristol based commissioning agency Situations⁸ provides clear and succinct advice for all partners involved in developing public art projects, such as:

Rule # 3 – Don't make it for a community. Create a community.

Rule # 4 – Create space for the unplanned.

Rule # 7 – Don't embellish. Interrupt.

⁸ These can be downloaded from: <http://www.situations.org.uk/product/new-rules-public-art/> [Accessed: 30 Nov 2014]

Internal Procedures

- 22.1 Kilkenny County Council has developed a number of internal procedures that aim to support a whole organisation approach to public art commissioning which encourages collaboration between staff and across local authority departments.
- 22.2 These internal procedures are designed to ensure that Kilkenny County Council applies for all Per Cent for Art Scheme funding opportunities and that the scheme is included in all future infrastructural and capital construction projects at the earliest possible stage. This will support the early integration of artists and ideas into all future public capital development projects.
- 22.3 Internal procedures are also put in place to ensure that all decisions relating to the Public Art Programme in Kilkenny are the responsibility of the PAMG and that clear communication is in place across the County Council as the Public Art Programme develops.
- 22.4 A copy of the Internal Procedures document can be accessed through the Arts Office.

Conservation, Maintenance and Repair of our Public Art Collection

- 23.1 The time and commitment needed to develop new public art projects in Kilkenny must be balanced with a level of care and attention needed for the conservation and maintenance of the works already in our collection.
- 23.2 Kilkenny County Council will undertake periodic audits of our collection of work in order to assess their current condition and where necessary make recommendations regarding maintenance and repair.
- 23.3 As with other aspects of the Public Art Programme this work will be coordinated by Kilkenny's PAMG and specialist staff in consultation with the commissioned artist, where possible.
- 23.4 Ideally, funding for any repair or conservation work needed will come from the general maintenance budgets in Kilkenny County Council.

Siting of Permanent Artworks

- 24.1 Where appropriate, the selection of appropriate sites for permanent, site-specific sculptures needs to be carefully researched and considered. This supports public engagement opportunities with the artwork while also maintaining standards around Health & Safety, etc.
- 24.2 This research will take into account the current use of the area by local communities and residents and also any other constructions projects under development in the area.
- 24.3 Where necessary Planning Permission may be required for the new sculpture or physical objects. Time and resources are needed to support this process.

Re-siting and Removal

- 25.1 Following an audit and review of the public art collection it may be deemed necessary to move an artwork to a new site or location.
- 25.2 At times it may be recommended to remove a work from a public place. This again will come following a period of review and discussion.
- 25.3 This decision will be made by the PAMG following consultation with relevant stakeholders including the commissioned artist, where possible.

Investment by Others including Gifts and Acquisitions

- 26.1 At times local authorities may be approached by private developers who wish to commission and install a public artwork or to gift a work to the city or county.
- 26.2 Investment by others will take into account the proposed siting of the work along with the usual considerations given to works commissioned by Kilkenny County Council, including for example, suitability, feasibility, Health & Safety, lighting, public access, etc.
- 26.3 While Kilkenny County Council is keen to develop productive and creative partnerships to progress the Public Art Programme, the local authority through the PAMG will also take into account the ethics of accepting artworks or gifts from private sources or partners.

Working with Elected Representatives

- 27.1 Taking into account that public art commissioning is a specialist area of development, we are keen to create opportunities for dialogue and input from the 24 Elected Representatives that make up Kilkenny County Council.
- 27.2 The Public Art Programme will facilitate their contribution and participation.
- 27.3 The PAMG will provide periodic updates on the progress of the Public Art Programme through the SPC structure.

Communicating What We Do

- 28.1 Kilkenny County Council will create clear communication processes that aim to provide information and updates on projects as they develop.
- 28.2 These processes will aim to engage with the wider public as well as smaller communities of interest. It will aim to sustain dialogue with staff within the County Council and our Elected Representatives.
- 28.3 Taking a lead from other aspects of the Council's work including the Arts Programme, a variety of communication strategies will be designed, for example working with printed media and drawing on social media opportunities and also through more discreet and quieter ways of getting and staying in contact with people and partners.

- 28.4 Communications ideas and plans will include input from the commissioned artists and, where appropriate, local communities involved in the projects.
- 28.5 Related to this, as projects develop it is important for Kilkenny County Council to be realistic with communities, partners, stakeholders and staff about expectations for new projects; on how far the available budget can go and also around the capacity and resources available to progress the project including staff time.
- 28.6 Funding for communication strategies for the Public Art Programme will come from the overall programme budget on a reasonable basis.

Documentation

- 29.1 By ensuring that professional documentation is included in all new public art projects right from the start, we will be able to capture, revisit and review what and how we are doing.
- 29.2 Documentation could include for example stills photography, video, or commissioning written texts that can be shared online or in print format, etc.
- 29.3 Documentation ideas and processes will be devised in consultation with artists, communities and partners and will aim to capture the project outcomes including areas that could be improved, as well as the relationships built up during the public art project.
- 29.4 The overall budget for the next Public Art Programme will include supports to make this happen.

Evaluation

- 30.1 The new Public Art Programme will see the inclusion of clear evaluation processes from the start.
- 30.2 We will work with independent evaluators in order to capture the knowledge and experience produced as the public art projects evolve.
- 30.3 The evaluation process will aim to learn from points of near failure as much as from moments of perceived success.
- 30.4 People and partners, collaborators and stakeholders will be invited to contribute to the evaluation, including use of a range of approaches to capture and harness feedback and advice that can help to improve the Public Art Programme as it develops.

Review Entities and Review Period

- 33.1 The public art policy will be reviewed every 2 years and adjusted and improved where needed, based on feedback from the evaluation process.

Policy Managers

34.1 The Kilkenny PAMG is responsible for managing this policy and for coordinating the evaluation process and making any subsequent changes.

For Further Information

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Appendix # 1 – Terms of Reference for Kilkenny’s Public Art Management Group (PAMG)

1. Role of the Kilkenny Public Art Management Group (PAMG)

The main aim of the PAMG is to explore the Public Art potential for Kilkenny County.

This will be progressed through the development of key areas:

1.1 Public Art POLICY and PLAN

1.2 Public Art PROGRAMME

1.3 Public Art ENGAGEMENT

The proposed new Public Art Programme for Kilkenny will include Documentation and Evaluation from the start of the process.

2. Terms of Reference for Kilkenny’s PAMG

2.1 To develop clear Public Art Policy for the County, which will set out the principles and structures under which public art will be commissioned, managed and maintained.

2.2 To develop a clear plan for a new Public Art Programme in Kilkenny.

2.3 To assist in the development of a coherent vision and curatorial statement for the Public Art Programme.

2.4 To ensure that creative opportunities for public engagement are included in the Public Art Programme.

2.5 To provide support to the Kilkenny Arts Office and the public art specialist staff or curators and any external commissioning agencies in the planning, selection and realisation of public art projects.

2.6 To assist in the planning and financial management of this Public Art Programme, including ensuring that internal procedures are in place to support the programme such as the establishment of a central budget [or finance code] for the pooling of Per Cent for Art Scheme funding, communication with the relevant Senior Management Team and SPCs etc.

2.7 To ensure that Kilkenny County Council applies for all Per Cent for Art Scheme funding opportunities and that the scheme is included in all future infrastructural and capital construction projects at the earliest possible stage. This will support the early integration of artists and ideas into these public development projects.

2.8 To input into the ongoing communication and evaluation of the Public Art Programme.

2.9 To review and update, where necessary, the Kilkenny Public Art Policy based on the evaluation findings of the new Public Art Programme.

2.10 To work in line with the National Guidelines for the Per Cent for Art Scheme along with Irish and international best practice.

2.11 To ensure that the make up of the PAMG includes a range of relevant expertise, including links to the Local Authority Departments where Per Cent for Art Scheme funding is available. The group also includes connections with areas such as Community Development, Arts and Culture and includes additional independent artistic expertise.

3. Meeting Frequency

3.1 The PAMG will meet at least twice yearly and as required thereafter. The group may also explore the use of group conference calls in order to reduce the amount of time people need to spend away from their desks and also to reduce travel time to and from meetings.

3.2 As required, there may also be follow up conversations and smaller meetings, if members are available.

3.3 Members may also be invited to sit on public art Selection Panels, if needed.

4. Reporting and Administration

4.1 The Arts Office and public art specialist staff or curator sets the Agenda for meetings, taking into account feedback from the group from the previous meeting.

5. Members of the Kilkenny Public Art Advisory Group (PAMG):

	Name	Role
1	Mary Mulholland Chairperson	Director of Services – Housing, Community, Arts & Heritage
2	Mary Butler, Secretary	Arts Officer, Kilkenny County Council
3	Michael Leahy	Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department, Kilkenny County Council
4	Ronan Ryan	Community Development Officer, Kilkenny County Council
5	Claire Goodwin	Landscape Architect, Parks Department, Kilkenny County Council
6	Seamus Kavanagh	Senior Engineer, Roads, Kilkenny County Council
7	Evelyn Graham	Executive Architect, Kilkenny County Council
8	Eimear Cody	Senior Executive Engineer, Kilkenny County Council
9	Cllr John Coonan	Member of Kilkenny County Council
10	Cllr Martin Brett	Member of Kilkenny County Council
11		Independent Curator and Collaborator

Appendix # 2 – Resources and Research Register

1. Department of Arts, Sport & Tourism – Public Art: Per Cent for Art Scheme – General National Guidelines – 2004
http://www.publicart.ie/fileadmin/user_upload/PDF_Folder/Public_Art_Per_Cent_for_Art.pdf
2. Department of Environment, Community and Local Government – statement on the inclusion of the Per Cent for Art Scheme in all construction budgets, links to the National Guidelines on Public Art and the recommendations to improve the range and quality of public art commissioning in Ireland
<http://www.environ.ie/en/LocalGovernment/PublicArt/>
3. publicart.ie – Irish online public art resource, offering information from the practical to the critical including a directory of over 200 public artworks, news and opportunities and video interviews with artists and commissioners. www.publicart.ie
4. New Rules for Public Art – developed by [Situations](#) an art organisation based in Bristol, UK. The simple document ‘reimagines what public art can be and where and when it can take place.’
<http://publicartnow.com/2013/12/12/the-new-rules-of-public-art/>
5. Dublin City Council – Policies and Strategies for Managing Public Art – Public Art Advisory Group (PAAG) Accessed at: <http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-recreation-culture-arts-office-public-art/public-art-policies>
6. City of Sydney, Australia – Public Art Policy, Strategy and Guidelines. Accessed at: <http://www.cityartsydney.com.au/cityart/resources/PublicArtPolicyStrategyGuidelines.asp>
 - [Public Art Policy | PDF 168K](#)
 - [City Art Public Art Strategy | PDF 5.56MB](#)
 - [Public Art Acquisition & Deaccession Guidelines | PDF 116KB](#)
7. Auckland, New Zealand. Accessed at:
<http://www.auckCCndcouncil.govt.nz/EN/planspoliciesprojects/councilpolicies/Pages/publicartpolicy.aspx>
<http://www.auckCCndcouncil.govt.nz/EN/planspoliciesprojects/councilpolicies/Documents/publicartpolicy.pdf>
8. City of Brampton, Canada – Public Art Task Force – Terms of Reference. Accessed at: <https://www.brampton.ca/EN/Arts-Culture-Tourism/Public-Art/Documents/Public%20Art%20Task%20Force%20Terms%20of%20Reference1.pdf>
9. City of Hamilton, New Zealand – Public Art Panel – Terms of Reference. Accessed at: <http://www.hamilton.govt.nz/our-city/about-hamilton/artsandculture/Documents/Public%20Art%20Panel%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf>
10. Create (Irish National Development Agency for Collaborative Arts) – model of best practice on residencies through the Arts Council of Ireland AIC (Artist in the Community Scheme)
<http://www.create-ireland.ie/about-the-artist-in-the-community-scheme.html> Also Create as a

resource organisation developed a comprehensive strategy document in 2012, titled 'Create Tomorrow' as a roadmap to the future 2013-2018, a vision document for the next five years <http://www.create-ireland.ie/publications/create-tomorrow-a-roadmap-to-the-future>

11. Leitrim County Council – SPARK Residencies – model of best practice on workplace residencies for artists and local businesses – 'creative residencies in companies' http://www.leitrimcoco.ie/eng/Services_A-Z/Arts_and_Culture/Programmes/Spark/
12. Documentary on Public Art – by Wildfire Films, presented by Joe Duffy – <http://www.wildfirefilms.net/mysitecaddy/site3/projectpublicart.htm>
13. 'Building a Republic of Creativity' – Speech by President Michael D. Higgins, made in Limerick in January 2014. <http://www.president.ie/speeches/address-by-president-michael-d-higgins-to-the-irish-technology-leadership-group-forum-university-of-limerick/>
14. 'Taking Charge of Change – Being Young and Irish' – Presidential Seminar 2012 – Over four months President Higgins gathered young people's suggestions and ideas for Ireland's future <http://www.president.ie/youngandirish/>