



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh
Kilkenny County Council

Kilkenny County Council Public Arts Programme 2024

Introduction

Kilkenny County Council is embarking on a new phase in its public art programme and will be accepting submissions for five commissions in 2024. The focus of these commissions will be on collaborations with communities in County Kilkenny. We are seeking up to five artist-led projects which should seek to challenge, engage and innovate, through meaningful dialogue, research and engagement with communities. Kilkenny County Council will be accepting proposals from any recognised art form, from individuals or teams, who seek to devise and complete new work, developed in a collaborative setting. We are seeking compelling, ambitious proposals from artists; which meet, challenge and expand our ideas of public art.

Communities and Places

We have identified a number of communities and ‘places’ in Kilkenny, which we are inviting artists to consider, when making their proposals and applications:

- Graiguenamanagh - South East Kilkenny
- Johnstown/Urlingford – northwest Kilkenny
- Slieverue South Kilkenny
- Lingaun Valley which lies in the shadow of Sliabh na mBan
- Kilkenny City

*We are also open to artists proposing other communities and places in the County. If other communities/places are proposed please outline your specific reasons for choosing an alternative to the above.

In initial conversations with representatives of various communities, a number of themes have arisen, which also link into the focus of the dynamic work the County Council does within community settings in the county:

- Ecology and sustainability
- The significance of the rivers and waterways
- History, heritage, folklore and memory
- Home – homelessness
- New communities, tradition, inclusion and diversity
- Sport – tradition, inclusion and diversity
- Architecture and architectural / built heritage / Ecclesiastical buildings

- Prominent Kilkenny historical figures – e.g. Alice Kyteler, Bishop Ledred.
- Heritage traces on the landscape – ruins, woollen mills, mass paths.
- Rural life and farming.
- Traditional and Traveller skills
- Women and power

These broad themes and ideas are suggestions and starting points and are not intended to be prescriptive. As part of each commission we would like to see a period of time given over to research and development of the project.

*We are also open to artists proposing ideas on themes outside of those listed above. If other themes are proposed please outline your specific reasons for choosing an alternative to the above.

Kilkenny has a rich and colourful history, vibrant and changing communities throughout the County and a natural environment enjoyed by all citizens. It is imperative that communities benefit from their encounters with artists and the experience of contributing to ambitious and expansive public arts projects.

Objectives

- To provide artists across all disciplines with meaningful opportunities to develop new work that reflect their ambition and ideas.
- To facilitate meaningful encounters, dialogue and connections between artists and communities in Kilkenny.
- To place ambition and innovation in public art practice at the forefront of these commissions.
- To listen and provide legacy opportunities for the communities involved in the public art commissions.
- To investigate, probe and consider community experiences through public art opportunities.

The Commissions

It is envisaged that the commissions will be commence in late 2024 and can be completed over a one to two-year period. This is the outer time limit. Projects can be completed in a shorter timeframe.

The actual duration, timeline and project schedules will be discussed and agreed between the artist, the Public Arts Project Manager and the Arts Office prior to commencement of any projects, and will form part of the artist's contract.

Projects will be supported by the Public Arts Programme Manager, Vincent O' Shea and Kilkenny County Councils Emerging Curator, Brendan Mac Evilly. They will assist selected artists with introductions and background to community organisations and representatives. They will support the work, and liaise with the artists on the progress of the commissions. They will link in where appropriate, with other Kilkenny County Council departments to support the development of the project. Commissioned artists will be expected to have a high degree of independence and organisational skills, but also the ability to work in partnership with others.

Kilkenny County Council will follow best practice in Public Art Commissioning, as outlined in the *Public Art: Per Cent for Art Scheme General National Guidelines 2004*.

The commissions will be awarded on the basis of an open, two-stage competition. Guidelines for making an application are listed below:

- The public art opportunities are open to individual artists or collaborative teams in any recognised artform.
- The artist must undertake to make new work, but it does not have to result in a permanent artwork. The commission can be for a once-off event, a publication, an intervention, a residency. We are open to receiving your ideas.
- We are seeking ambitious proposals, both in the artwork and in the proposed engagement with the community.
- In making a Stage 1 proposal we ask that you **DO NOT** contact community groups.
- Shortlisted artists will be paid to research and develop a detailed Stage 2 proposal, which will involve identifying community groups/representatives at that point.
- Artists do not have to be from or resident in Kilkenny but the commissioners would like to see a commitment to spending significant time in the county working with communities.

Who can apply for the commissions?

- Irish, EU, UK and non EU artists.

Stage 1 Submission

Please read and follow the instructions in the application form below.

You must send your Stage 1 in the proposal form (see below)

- Artists should outline their initial response to the brief. We need a strong sense of your concepts, and ideas.
- If you are responding to or proposing a specific theme, please tell us how your work seeks to address that theme or idea.
- Please outline how you aim to realise your project – this is particularly relevant for technical proposals, live performance etc.
- Please provide information on every member of your proposed team, if a collaborative project. We will need CVs for everyone involved with examples and images of previous work. We would like to see images from at least three previous relevant projects.
- If your proposal/idea is specific to one particular community or group please indicate this in your proposal (*and just a reminder, please do not contact any groups at this stage).
- Your Stage 1 proposal should outline how you propose to work with and engage the community.
- You must provide an indicative summary timeline for your proposal.
- You must provide an indicative summary budget for your proposal, i.e. the budget does not have to be detailed at Stage 1.
- Submissions should be a maximum of five A4 pages or less.
- Minimum font size 12 point.

Your submission might include the following headings

- Brief outline
- Artist(s) involved
- Detailed outline
- Community engagement
- Artistic outcomes
- A broad outline budget

Selection Panel will comprise of:

- The Arts Officer, Kilkenny County Council
- Public Art Programme Manager/Curator
- County Council Community Department Representatives
- Independent Artists x2

Selection Criteria - Stage 1

Criteria	Total Available Marks /1000
Artistic ambition and quality of the proposed idea	200
Scope of the project and potential to meet the brief	150
Potential for engagement with the community	200
Outline budget for the project.	100
Representative timeline	100
Experience and ability of the artist/team to deliver a project of the scale proposed	100
Ability of the project to push boundaries and challenge perceptions of public art practice	150

The panel will undertake to shortlist up to fifteen artists' proposals to move to Stage 2 of the competition. Shortlisted artists will be paid up to €1,500 for phase 2 – to research and develop and progress their proposals. They will liaise with the Project Manager/ Curator and relevant Kilkenny County Council staff to seek guidance and support on potential community connections.

Stage 2

Shortlisted artists will be given three months to research and prepare detailed and specific proposals for the panel's consideration. The Stage 2 submissions must:

- Present a coherent outline of the proposal, clearly outlining the scope, aims and expected outcomes of the project. It should be well articulated to ensure that it is clear to the panel exactly what you intend to achieve from the commission.
- Present details on who will be delivering the work. If the proposal involves more than one artist / personnel please include CV's and details on relevant previous experience of the individuals involved in project realisation.
- Include detailed timelines.

- Include a detailed itemised budget – outline and include costs for every aspect of the project including artist fees, community interactions, materials, insurance, travel, production costs etc and a contingency.
- Outline any technical considerations, licenses, specifics etc.
- Shortlisted artists will be paid a fee of **€1,500** for their submission.

The selection panel may choose to invite shortlisted artists to make a presentation to the panel. You will be given plenty of notice, if this is a requirement.

Selection Criteria – Stage 2

The award criteria will be broadly in line with Stage 1 and may be amended on the Selection Panel’s recommendations.

Criteria	Total Available Marks /1000
Artistic ambition and quality of the proposed idea	200
Scope of the project and how it addresses the brief	150
Potential for engagement with the community	200
Detailed costed budget with quotations	100
Realistic timeline	100
Experience and ability of the artist/team to deliver a project of the scale proposed	100
Ability of the project to push boundaries and challenge perceptions of public art practice	150

Budget Allocations for Commissions

There are a total of five commissions available under the programme.

- Two commissions of up to €115,000 each.

- Two commissions of up to €75,000 each.
- One commission of up to €40,000.

Commission Funding Allocations

The funding allocations will be decided on by the Kilkenny County Council's Selection Panel, based on the requirements of the project set out in the artists' submissions.

Funding Allocation Guidelines

Kilkenny County Council will work to ensure that the funding allocated will be appropriate to ensure that the commission can be completed as outlined by the artist in their Stage 2 submission. Artists fees will be in line with The Arts Council's **Paying the Artist Policy**.

Commission Awards -Terms & Conditions:

- Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- Those making a submission guarantee that it is for an original artwork.
- Collaborative/ Joint submissions will be considered.
- Kilkenny County Council and the selection panel reserve the right to seek clarifications from artists who make submissions.
- Applicants are responsible for the cost of Stage 1 submissions. Artists fees will be paid to Stage 2, shortlisted artists.
- The contract price shall be inclusive of VAT and all other taxes, duties and insurances.
- The artists must satisfy Kilkenny County Council that the work can be completed for the contract price and within the agreed timeline.
- Kilkenny County Council reserves the right not to award the commission if none of the proposals received are deemed to be suitable and, in this instance and they reserve the right to pursue another commissioning process.
- The successful artist/s will be issued with a contract.
- The commissioned artist/s will be required to furnish a valid Tax Clearance Certificate for all stages of the commission.
- The commissioned artist/s and any contractors must comply with all current Irish Health and Safety legislation and all Irish Employment legislation as required.
- The commissioned artist/s and any contractors must comply with all current Public Health Advice.

- When, and if required, the commissioned artist will be responsible for ensuring full compliance with Child Protection, Safeguarding and Garda vetting requirements.

Insurance Requirements

- The Artist should hold adequate Public Liability insurance cover for the process of the project, including any community engagement activities or installation of the artwork/performance etc. The artist is to outline his/her cover and the Client is to ensure the Work is covered in their policies where possible.
- The Artist shall keep the Council fully indemnified from and against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands, losses, costs, expenses damages and liability arising directly or indirectly as a result of the activities of the Artist its subcontractors, agents or employees in the performance of this Agreement.
- The Artist is required to have in place the following insurances in relation to all works and activities in connection with the Commission to include all activities in any location in connection with the production, creation and installation of the Commission until the Date of Final Acceptance of the Artwork by the Council:
 - Public Liability Insurance cover of €6.5million with an indemnity to principal extension.
 - Employers Liability cover of €13 million with an indemnity to principal extension (where employees are engaged by the Artist in connection with the Commission).
- The Council will not insure equipment belonging to the Artist or their associates and will not insure any materials used by the Artist or their associates in connection with the Commission.
- Whenever required to do so by the Council, the Artist will produce to the Council the said policy or policies together with satisfactory evidence that the same is/are valid and subsisting and that all premiums due thereon have been paid.

Evidence of insurance will only be required prior to signing a contract with Kilkenny County Council.

Timeline

1 st July 2024	Publish Call for Stage 1 Submissions
5 th September 2024	Closing date for receipt of Stage1 submissions

27 th September 2024	Stage 2 Notifications
21 st November 2024	Stage 2 Submission Deadline
12 th December 2024	Notification of commission awards and contracts
December 2026	Commissions completion

The resources outlined below are for guidance only and are not required reading

- Kilkeny City and County Development Plan 2021 - 2027
<https://ourplan.kilkenny.ie/>
- Kilkeny Arts Office
www.kilkennyartsoffice.ie
- Kilkeny County Council Heritage Office
www.kilkennyheritageoffice.ie
- Johnstown Kilkeny
<https://irishwaterwayshistory.com/abandoned-or-little-used-irish-waterways/waterways-of-the-south-east/johnstown-co-kilkenny/>
<https://mapcarta.com/18272812>
- Urlingford
<https://www.townlands.ie/kilkenny/urlingford1/>
<https://kilkennycoco.ie/eng/services/planning/development-plans/local-area-plans/urlingford-local-area-plan.html>
<https://kilkennyarchaeologicalsociety.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/OKR1980-69-Katherine-M-Lanigan-Urlingford.pdf>
- Graiguenamanagh
<https://kilkenny.com/about/beyond-the-city/grauguenamanagh/>
<https://villageofthemonks.com/>
<https://kilkennycoco.ie/eng/publications/rural-regeneration/in-focus-grauguenamanagh-tv-rrdf-copy.pdf>
https://kilkennycoco.ie/eng/services/community_culture/
- Slieverue
<https://southeastgreenway.net/slieverue-2>

Stage 1 Public Arts Programme Proposal Form

- **PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM**
- **INCLUDE SUPPORTING MATERIALS – CVs / Bios / Images etc / Details of previous projects etc**

- **SAVE AS ONE PDF DOCUMENT**
- **THE PDF MUST NOT BE ANY LARGER THAN 10MB**

Please insert an 'x' in the relevant box below:

Proposing: Up to €40,000 Up to €75,000 Up to €115,000

Name _____

Address _____

Contact No's _____

Email _____

I have read and understood the terms and conditions and artists' briefs.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Initial Response to the Brief:

- Briefly outline your ideas and approach to the project, with reference to its ambition and originality. We want to understand your creative vision and how your proposal addresses the brief (max 500 words)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the upper two-thirds of the page. It is intended for the user to write their proposal.

Proposal theme / idea:

- If your proposal is in response to a specific theme, community and / or place, describe how it addresses that. (max 350 words)

- **Community Focus:** If your project targets a specific demographic community indicate this here. **NB: Do not contact any groups or individuals at this stage.**



Project Realisation:

- Describe how you plan to realise your project. Where relevant please include the following:
(350 words)

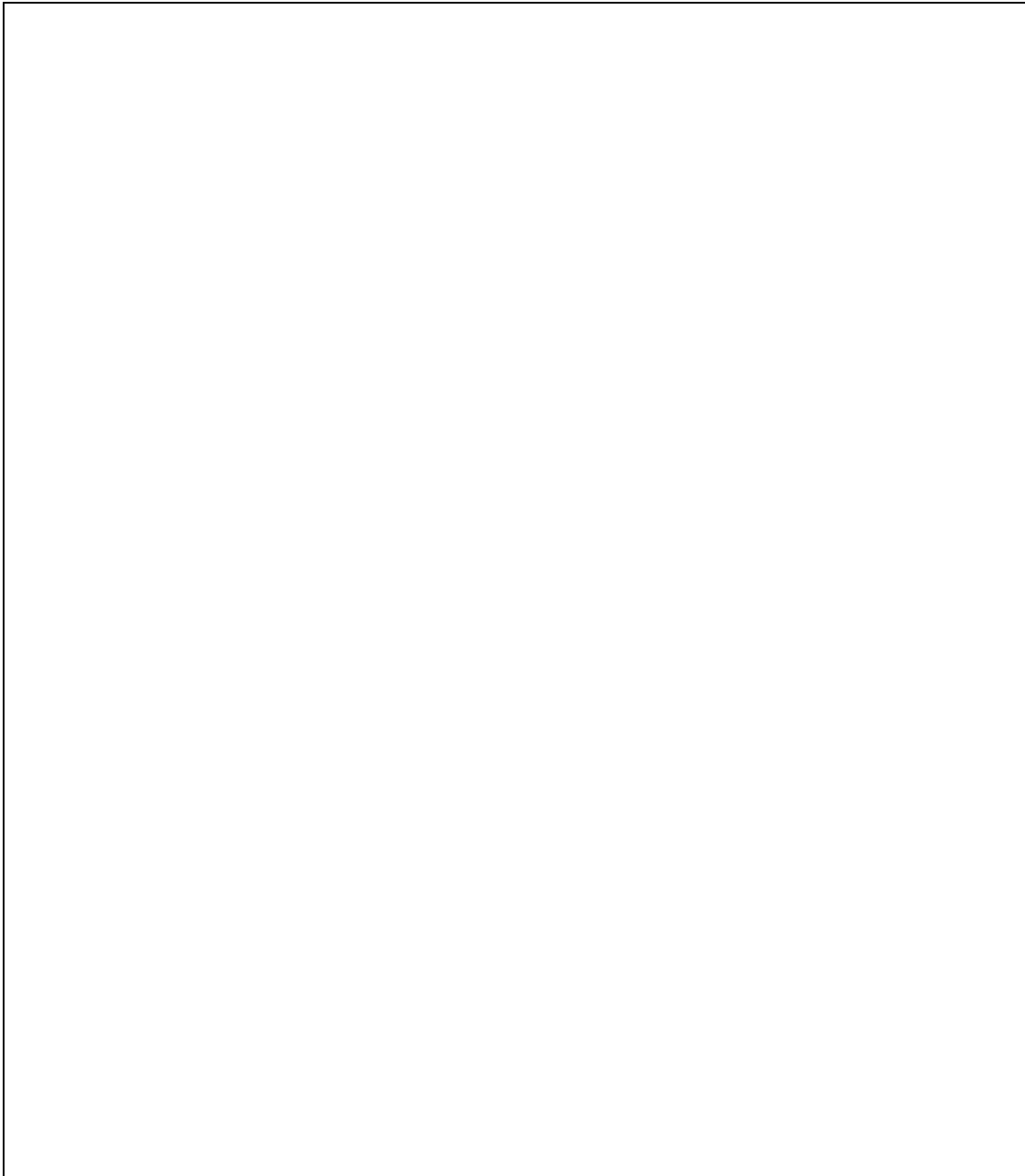
- Physical works – intended materials and technique, possible scale and potential site-specific considerations.
- Community engagement – your creative idea, proposed community engagement plan, commitment to potential collaborations and participatory elements.
- Performance – artistic vision, style, format, audience participation if relevant, etc.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central portion of the page. It is intended for a drawing or a detailed written response related to the project proposal.

Collaborative Projects:

- If your proposal involves a team, provide information on each team member.

- Include CV's for all team members and examples/images of their previous work (at least three relevant projects).



Indicative Timeline Provide a proposed timeline

