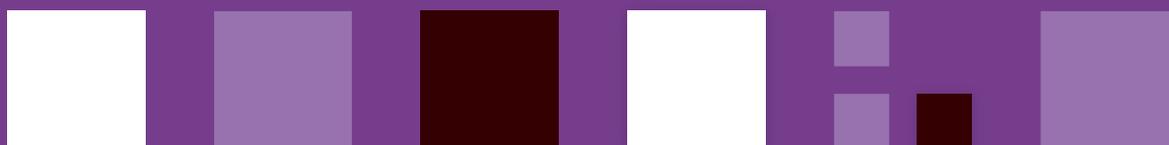


Making Great Art Work

Funding Framework (2018–2020)



The Arts Council has a new approach to funding, which we call the *Making Great Art Work Funding Framework*.

This framework is based on our ten-year strategy, *Making Great Art Work (2016–2025)*.

This document explains our new funding categories and offers advice on the category that best supports your practice or activities.

Everyone looking for Arts Council funding should read this document: individual artists, established organisations or groupings or collectives with ideas for creating work.

Why is there a new approach to funding?

In the Arts Council, we are acutely aware that many artists are making excellent, innovative, ambitious and vibrant work but have not had the range of opportunities they might wish to develop their practice and take their ideas further.

We are also aware that many established organisations have not been able to plan over more than one year, which has reduced their capacity to build relationships over time, create partnerships both national and international, and plan strategically into the future.

A key commitment in our Three-Year Plan 2017–2019 was to review our funding programmes, schemes and initiatives so we can fully embed our *Making Great Art Work* priorities. This review was intended to:

- 🎯 help us think about how we invest in art and arts practice in a more effective way,
- 🎯 streamline the supports available to artists and to arts organisations, and
- 🎯 simplify and clarify our application, assessment and decision-making processes.

The Making Great Art Work Funding Framework is the outcome of this review.

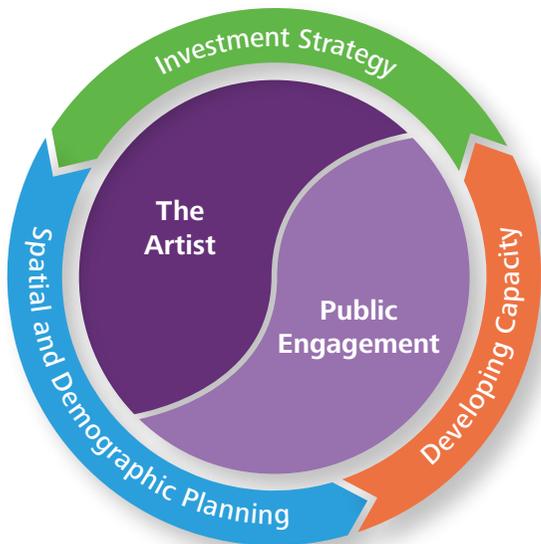
What strategic priorities does this funding framework support?

The Arts Council has identified the following two policy priorities as part of our ten-year strategy¹:

- 🎯 **The Artist:** Artists are supported to make excellent work which is enjoyed and valued
- 🎯 **Public Engagement:** More people will enjoy high quality arts experiences

We have also designated three areas of planning and decision-making as priorities. These are:

- 🎯 **Investment Strategy:** Public monies are invested effectively to realise our priorities
- 🎯 **Spatial and Demographic Planning:** Well-planned arts provision benefits people across Ireland
- 🎯 **Developing Capacity:** The Arts Council and the arts sector have the knowledge, skills and inventiveness to realise this strategy



Through our review of these priorities, we have identified five funding categories that will enable us to deliver on our strategic goals.

¹ The Arts Council's ten-year strategy (2016–2025), Making Great Art Work: Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland is available to read here: <http://www.artscouncil.ie/arts-council-strategy/>

What are the new funding categories?

These categories encapsulate the varied range, nature and purpose of the types of arts activities and aspects of arts provision that we recognise as being important. We wish to continue to support these as best we can within the limits of the resources available to us.

Funding category	Purpose	Who can apply?
Artists' supports	To support individual artists to develop their ideas and their practice through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • taking time out to concentrate on their artistic practice, • travelling to learn or to experience work in other countries, or • availing of a residency opportunity with an organisation or institution 	Individual artists only
Project and programme	To provide funding on a competitive basis to support individuals, entities or organisations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a specific idea, or • to deliver more than one idea or activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual artists • Organisations • Entities that come together for the purpose of delivering a project or programme of work
Strategic	To provide funding on a competitive basis to support arts organisations with ambitious and imaginative proposals to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assist artists in developing their practice and their ideas, and/or • deliver excellent arts experiences to the public 	Organisations that are formally constituted and have a track record for the delivery in the arts
Partnership	To provide funding to support local authorities in delivering arts experiences to people across Ireland	Local authority arts offices
Development	To support a range of activities designed to assist artists and organisations in undertaking developmental activities that enhance participation and stimulate public interest in the arts. There are two types of development funding programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes in partnership with third-party organisations • Programmes managed directly by the Arts Council 	Development funding is not an open programme. The development funding on offer will change depending on our priorities and goals. This means that who can apply will also change.

Investment Plan 2018

In November 2017, we will publish an investment plan for 2018. As part of our investment planning process for 2018 we will decide the amounts within each funding category. This will be based on the overall strategic priorities we determine to be most appropriate to achieving our goals.

When will this funding be available?

Guideline documents for each funding category will be made available well before the application deadline.

Strategic funding 2018	Closing date 7 September 2017
Partnership funding 2018	Closing date 7 September 2017
Project and programme funding	Closing date 8 February 2018
Artists' supports	Early 2018 – see the Arts Council website for details
Development funding	Ongoing – please see dates on the Arts Council website