

Task and Finish Group Strategy

How can we maximise strategic opportunities for inclusive meanwhile, creative & community workspace in Lewisham, post Borough of Culture, to ensure that we grow and retain talent within the Borough and attract inward investment?

Manifesto/ upcoming Corporate Strategy commitment to “establish a post Borough of Culture ‘Creative Lewisham’ programme to drive ongoing cultural and economic development in the Borough

Aims

Identify unused and underused, private and council-owned spaces in order to:

- Establish affordable **workspaces, creative hubs and live music venues**
- Contribute towards the **legacy of the Borough of Culture**
- Foster **inclusive economic activity**
- Offer pathways and training leading to **social, cultural and economic participation**
- Energize the **circular economy and attract investment**
- Create **guidelines and recommendations for new developers** when creating community and business spaces
- Generate **council revenue**

Objectives

Data driven approach which harnesses existing expertise and avoids duplication in order to create actionable recommendations which help achieve aims by:

- Benchmark the work of other boroughs post BoC
- Establishing community stakeholders
- Engaging relevant council departments and councillors
- Identifying supporting local and national policies
- Collating existing reports and studies e.g. Musician Union report on how live music venues drive economic activity
- Harnessing expertise in Lewisham and beyond
- Mapping un/underused council and private assets including new developments

Other aims and outcomes

- Test viability
- Ensure high quality community engagement
- Communicate process and findings effectively to stakeholders and public

Additional comments:

The Task and Finish Group should:

Work to really understand is meant by **affordable** in relation to workspaces

- What are different levels of affordability to different groups?

- What are different models of pricing for space e.g. incremental rising

Understand who is not included in the local economy and cultural life

- Identify groups of people excluded
- Understand the barriers to participation

Promote inclusion in economic and cultural activity

- Identify ways of including excluded groups e.g. digital literacy training
- Bring together a range of partners including charities and grant schemes

Explore how we can maximise the use of the spaces for multi-purpose use

- Workspaces
- Music Venues
- Study spaces
- Mental Health Provision