

BARNSLEY



BARNSELEY'S CULTURAL STRATEGY

Update

Thursday October 6th

Challenges Faced By Our Communities

- **Low levels of engagement & participation in community life**
- **Increasingly isolated and disenfranchised communities feeling 'left behind' by economic growth and the pandemic**
- **Significant wellbeing and mental health inequalities and lower life expectancy exacerbated by the impacts of COVID**
- **Barriers to accessing employment which need understanding and alleviating**
- **Challenges particularly acute in Principal Towns**
- **Significant deprivation challenges and a worsening gap in incomes and livelihoods, further emphasised by Cost of Living Crisis**



What this means for culture in Barnsley?

- **Democratic and co-created**
- **Citizen led**
- **Focus on reducing inequality**
- **Genuinely Borough wide**
- **Innovative engagement**



**BARNSLEY:
A PLACE OF
POSSIBILITIES**

**Where people make
things happen**

Our
Current Cultural
Priorities

A cultural strategy for Barnsley

Cultural and Creative Industries: mapping the ecology

Good work for artists and creative practitioners

The Civic

Eldon Street High Street HAZ

Connecting the dots: Arts embedded in health and wellbeing, communities, education, social care - commissioning

Cultural place-based partnerships and Local Culture

Spaces and Hubs in every community

Digital Innovation

Great places to visit: Elsecar, Cannon Hall, Experience Barnsley, Cooper Gallery, Archives, Worsbrough Mill and our Principal Towns

Sustainability –financial and environmental

Barnsley's Cultural Strategy

- **Must be rooted in the needs and expectations of local people**
- **Citizens' Assembly model potentially piloted**
- **Process as important as final product**
- **Embedding democratic approaches**
- **Rooted in wider challenges...health**
- **Creative practitioners play key role**



Barnsley's Cultural Strategy

- **Arts Council very supportive of approach**
- **Talking through with key stakeholders**
- **Identifying funding**
- **Provisional timescales – late 2022 to late 2023**
- **Health and Wellbeing Board, and wider health sector, will be key**

