

# Cultural Framework Delivery Plan

## January 2025

The tables below contain initial actions for Q3 and Q4 of 2024-25 and all quarters of 2025-2026, identified throughout the development of the Cultural Framework.

### Collaborate and Advocate

Description	Priorities	Timeframe	Performance/ Output Measure
Explore methods for the Council and sector to connect and support each other through communication platforms to aid mutually beneficial marketing and communications for all	1, 2, 4, 5, 8	Jul-Sep 2025	Marketing of non-Council events and activities shared on council platforms and vice versa
Convene a wider consortium including other sectors, including economic, community, NHS, and education leaders - who will develop a Cultural Compact	4, 5, 6, 7	Apr-June 2025	Consortium convened
Continue to collaborate with Arts Council England to explore all opportunities for cultural and creative development and funding across the Westmorland and Furness footprint.	1, 2, 8	Ongoing	Regular communications between Strategic Lead and Arts Council England
Continue to collaborate on Arts Council England's strategic support of Barrow as a Priority Place and in its participation in Creative People and Places for 2026-29	1, 2, 8	Ongoing	Strategic Lead's participation in ACE's Barrow-based activities
Continue to represent our people and place and advocate for them within developing regional and national contexts, including possible Devolution, the Convention of the North, the developing of ideas around Creative Corridors, and other evolving central Government priorities and investment opportunities.	1-9	Ongoing	Evidence of WFC participation in these contexts

## Invest and Support

Description	Priorities	Timeframe	Performance/ Output Measure
Continue, for the financial year 2025-26, to commit to current levels of investment for those organisations that previously received it. <sup>1</sup>	4	Apr 2025-Mar 2026	Revenue funding administered to existing recipients
Create solutions for maximising outcomes from potential additional funding for 2025-26. Within this, making decisions with communities and localities and co-producing new sustainable cultural partnerships and models that deliver Council priorities.	1, 2, 4, 5, 9	Apr-Jun 2025	Solutions for the use of any secured funding
During 2025-26, with the above commitment to continuing to support the area's independent arts and culture sector, we will review, renew and refresh our predecessor councils' historic models for offering financial support, creating new approaches to both supporting the sector and local arts development that are equitable and suitably address our entire footprint. New models to be agreed for April 2026 onwards. <sup>2</sup>	4	Apr 2025-Mar 2026	New model agreed

## Engage

Description	Priorities	Timeframe	Performance/ Output Measure
<p>Set up and undertake further conversations around the responsive delivery of this Framework's priorities with the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children and young people, embedding youth voice in this work</li> <li>- Locality Boards and Community Development Teams</li> <li>- Children's Services and 0-19 teams, Adult Social Care, Public Health, Education and Training</li> <li>- The Third Sector</li> <li>- Local Councils, Town and Parish Councils, and community groups</li> </ul>	1, 2, 3, 4	Oct-Dec 2025	Conversations undertaken and actions taken forward within the development of an updated Delivery Plan

<sup>1</sup> For both 2023-24 and 2024-25, Westmorland and Furness Council investment levels in specific arts, culture and heritage organisations that were inherited from previous councils were continued with an additional request that activity reflects the new Council's priorities.

<sup>2</sup> Strategic Lead for Culture and others will engage in conversations with recipients to explore how best to transition to the new emerging model(s).

## Take Stock and Organise

Description	Priorities	Timeframe	Performance/ Output Measure
Continue to assess the potential of the Council's venues and undertake feasibility studies of Council assets as appropriate.	9	Apr 2025-Mar 2026	Feasibilities completed
Develop the case for distinctive, large-scale, celebratory events (possibly every 2-3 years) that mark something unique to Westmorland and Furness and that celebrates local creativity, people and place. These distinctive signature projects, of scale and quality, will dramatically improve the offer for local communities and visitors and will be designed in partnership with local organisations (both professional and amateur) and should be high-profile, investible and supportable propositions.	1, 2, 8, 9	Oct-Dec 2025	Report and action plan for next steps
Work collaboratively with our communities to shape Council-led cultural activities and events.	1, 9	Ongoing	Groups organised and evidence of community engagement in this process
Provide guidance and support for those applying, with a special focus on new applicants.	4, 7	Apr 2025-Mar 2026	Guidance and support available