

Summary of Report Recommendations

Issue	Recommendation
<p>Protecting Livelihoods and Careers: Measures taken to suppress Covid-19 have effectively shut down much of the creative sector. Limitations on indoor and outdoor events, social distancing and travel restrictions have had a severe impact on the arts, culture, live entertainment and events, with grave consequences for those working in these sectors and for the public who enjoy and support that work.</p>	<p>Pilot a universal basic income scheme for a three-year period in the arts, culture, audio visual and live performance and events sectors.</p>
<p>Mitigating Income Loss: There are significant income challenges facing people who work in the arts, culture, live entertainment and events sector. For many businesses and workers in this sector, economic precariousness is an endemic issue, but it has been considerably exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Establish a new VAT Compensation Scheme for artists and for freelance arts, live entertainment and events workers and companies.</p>
<p>Ensuring Fair Pay for the Makers of Creative Content: The prolonged cessation of all live cultural presentation and entertainment has led to significant growth in the generation and consumption of on-line creative content. An increased presence in the digital space should bring artists and creatives greater opportunity to earn income <i>via</i> copyright at a time when normal sources of income have dried up.</p>	<p>Transpose the EU <i>Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market</i> into Irish Law without adjustment or dilution of the intention of the directive as it relates to rightsholders.</p>
<p>Securing the Viability of the Live Events Industry: The Events sector – comprising multiple successful and fundamentally viable SMEs – has been completely shut down by COVID-19. Across the country, indoors and out, in all seasons and weathers, and from small-size to international-scale, it produces and presents exhibitions, trade shows, sporting and cultural occasions, conferences, festivals, promotions and a myriad of events.</p>	<p>Introduce a Business Supports Grant Scheme for SMEs in the events industry that are excluded from the COVID-19 restrictions support scheme (CRSS).</p>
<p>Sustaining Local Authority Capacity to Support Arts, Culture, Live Entertainment and Events: For more than forty years local authorities have supported the arts in all parts of Ireland. Through capital investment, designated staff, and annual programme budgets, local government has become central to provision countrywide of venues, festivals, events, public art, artists’ studios, programmes for young people, socially engaged arts practice, bursaries, commissions, exhibitions and collections. This provision complements local authority library services and heritage programmes.</p>	<p>Government should commit to continue its provision of financial support to local authorities to offset any loss of income they experience in 2021 so as to enable them to maintain their investment in arts, culture and events at 2020 levels.</p>
<p>Ensuring the Wellbeing of Ireland’s Creative and Cultural Community: The Government’s <i>Resilience and Recovery 2020 – 2021</i></p>	<p>Establish a programme that provides wellbeing supports to the creative sector. Allocate funding in 2021 for the provision of wellbeing supports to artists,</p>

Plan for Living with COVID-19 states that the pandemic and its consequences have created significant challenges for everyone, generating an ongoing level of stress and worry. The Plan places a focus on supporting physical and mental wellbeing which aligns closely with other Government priorities such as the recently launched *Keep Well* campaign which places emphasis on empowering people and communities to keep physically and mentally well.

creative practitioners and event workers, addressing their common and distinctive needs.

Building sectoral capacity through upskilling and professional development:

The immediate effect of COVID-19 on the sectors has been devastating. *First to shut and last to open* is the common mantra. The challenge now is to ensure that impact is neither long-term nor defining. Measures taken already and further ones recommended in this report will aid survival. But survival must grow into recovery and that recovery must be sustained. Central to realising that objective is the provision of support to the sector's large workforce with its wide range of skills and unique experience.

Establish a capacity building and upskilling scheme for artists and creative workers aimed at recovery and renewal through professional development.

Making Space for Arts & Live Entertainment to Contribute to National Recovery:

Arts and live entertainment events of all kinds are critical to Ireland's recovery from COVID-19 and its many negative consequences for the fabric of our lives as individuals, families, communities. As a people, we have an inherent love of socialisation in cultural settings, formal and informal.

The treatment of cultural activities and venues under the various levels of the *Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 Plan for Living With COVID-19* requires urgent review to better reflect actual circumstances and the particular behaviours of artists, audiences and venue staffs in this area of Irish life.

Providing more Outdoor Public Spaces for Cultural Events:

Outdoor public spaces – in both the built and natural environment – are especially conducive to realising the Government's ambition to make the arts more accessible and inclusive to everyone.

Establish 'Re-imagining our Public Spaces': a capital improvement programme.

Addressing the Environmental Impact of Arts, Cultural and Event Activities:

Climate disruption is already having multiple and wide-ranging impacts on Ireland's environment, natural resources, economy and society. Radical transformation is required to address the consequences of these impacts. The new National Economic Plan has sustainability at its core, and commits to Ireland's transition to a low carbon economy.

Establish and fund a Creative Green Programme.