

# RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON ART AND CULTURE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

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## Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum January 2017

The Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum have been building an evidence base as to whether there is the need to improve facilities for the arts and culture within Our Neighbourhood. In June/July 2015 the Forum hosted two events at the Town Hall and distributed general questionnaires to every household in the City. This was to establish what the people who lived and/or worked in the City thought was good, bad and needed to change. The results were collated under various headings, including issues relating to the arts and culture, and these are available on the Forum's website:

<http://npf.durhamcity.org.uk/your-views/>

The responses related to arts and culture have been repeated in this document.

In addition, in August 2016, 100 new questionnaires relating just to the arts and culture and asking what was good, bad and needed to change, were distributed in the City, including all businesses with links to the arts. Of these, 28 were returned. The responses have been collated under the main headings, plus a full list of each individual response is also included.

### 1. FEEDBACK ON ARTS AND CULTURE FROM THE PRIORITY SURVEY, 2015

#### What Needs to Change for Arts and Culture in Durham City

- Need to know what the different communities want – real consultation.
- We need a cultural balance in the City
- There is a lack of art rooms
- Community hub/ Centre in the City which provides information for tourists and visitors- a place to signpost to events, independent retail, art classes, etc
- A need for meeting rooms,
- Special rates for community groups in such places as the Town Hall
- Provision of more cultural facilities - art is particularly poorly provided for
- [Millennium Square] development of adjacent space for arts exhibition etc
- more involvement from library in cultural events.
- facility to provide outdoor seating for cultural events e.g. chamber music concerts in millennium square.
- More art, cinema, theatre, leisure areas done up nice so folk like to come and meet up. Think of what was done to Newcastle riverside
- More cultural & artistic facilities within the city
- The art gallery needs to be moved to the city centre. It is such a shame that a city with the cultural heritage of Durham does not have a city centre art gallery.
- Foster an artist's quarter
- Link art and economy
- More festivals
- Provide more entertainment facilities (e.g. a multiplex cinema)

- An art gallery
- A live music venue
- Millennium Place should be a cultural Centre
- Live music venue
- More public spaces with a café culture – that expands into the evening
- Need a museum for the City
- Need an art gallery
- Develop a cultural and artistic centre
- Provide more community, leisure, and cultural facilities
- Use of back Silver Street
- Durham needs a multiplex cinema at the very least
- Lack of good leisure facilities for young people - the loss of facilities like the bowling alley by the river seems sadly typical (as does the failure to have a proper replacement for the North Rd Cinema)
- We need a cinema
- Would be nice if we had a better cinema
- A cinema
- No cinema
- Refurbish the old Robins cinema. It could be an attraction like the Tyneside cinema in Newcastle
- More art, cinema, theatre, leisure areas done up nice so folk like to come and meet up
- Planning needs to be co-ordinated, e.g. Gala Cinema wants 3 screens, Gates development 4-6 screens. Where is the sense in that?
- Enlarge Gala theatre to attract larger companies at present many people travelling to Sunderland & Newcastle this City deserves a better theatre
- No art galleries
- Opportunities for small independent shops and galleries – an issue relating to high rentals.
- [Millennium square] development of adjacent space for arts exhibition etc
- facility to provide outdoor seating for cultural events e.g. chamber music concerts in millennium square.
- What has happened to Millennium Square, intended. to be a cultural centre and fast becoming the Mecca of the Night Time Economy?
- Millennium Square, suggest it is roofed similar to an arcade to create a "winter garden", offering art and craft studios, open plan coffee shop and eating area.
- We need a museum
- Make better use of Millennium square - as a tourist focal point. Though would that work with all the pubs nearby?
- The city (and county) needs to have more attractions that will entice tourists to stay for more than half a day.

**Lack of a central Information 'hub' / a need for improvement of signage**

- Lack of tourist information centre
- Tourist information centre needed
- No TIO
- Publicity is poor e.g. Regatta
- No 'What's on this Week' Boards in Centre
- A Tourist Information Office in the centre

- We should have the Tourist Information Centre right back as it was, where it was
- Promotion of tourism - it's more than just the castle & cathedral, all the other heritage & history in the city centre, plus links to the wider Co. Durham
- No tourist information office,
- Restoration of tourist information centre in millennium square.
- Bring back Tourist Info as place for general local info (not just for tourists).
- We need a central point like a Tourist Information Office to which all those who are holding an event can leave leaflets and information.
- No Tourist Information Centre to promote tourism and Special Events
- Open new TIC perhaps in the Town Hall as it is more central.
- More help and encouragement for tourists to visit
- No proper Tourist Information Office.
- Need a good tourist info office
- Restore the Tourist Information Office
- no tourist information office,
- Need TIC.
- Volunteer TIC.
- Restoration of tourist info centre in millennium square.
- Better information about what's on in the city - info is available but not from a single source thereby making finding out what's going on inconsistent and difficult
- Durham a destination City. Promote and support tourism e.g. reopen the Tourist Information Office/ need Tourism strategy for longer stays/information boards
- Poor signage
- Improve signage
- Improve signage e.g. Freemans Quay swimming pool
- Signage to Finchale . Beaufort etc.

## 2. ARTS AND CULTURE QUESTIONNAIRE, 2016 - COLLATED RESPONSES

### 2.A. People who live and work in Durham were asked 'What's good about Durham regarding the artistic and cultural life of the City? This is what they wrote:

- Durham is a beautiful cathedral City with World Heritage status, including the Peninsular with Cathedral, Castle and ancillary buildings around Palace Green, the old bridges and the riverbank walks. If you are a photographer or an artist there is plenty to inspire you.
- We have a beautiful city with a fantastic Cathedral and Castle which attracts lots of visitors each year.
- Durham recognised internationally as having a WHS and a world class university
- The Cathedral thought of as the 'jewel in the crown' of the NE Culture
- Durham is everything you need in a small picturesque city with a river, cathedral, motorway and main line to London and Edinburgh. The students and tourists give town vitality. Also proximity to the seaside, moors, good schools and Park and Ride
- The Cathedral, music and its general contribution – the visiting troupes (e.g. Chamberlain's men)
- The natural Environment --a beautiful setting with riverside walks right in the centre of the City, accessible routes and paths to natural landscape. The ability to walk around the river yet be minutes away from the town. The small compact nature of the city with quick access to green fields (Green Belt) and patches of undisturbed nature.
- Historical buildings – the sense of history which gives town a unique character. The architecture shows such a long period of settlement.
- Cultural events organised by the University and Cathedral e.g. at Oriental Museum, Botanical Gardens (including the events for children) Also temporary exhibition space, 'workshop' capacity, concerts and small scale musical events. at Palace Green Library.
- Events in the churches across the City e.g. concerts in St. Godric's and Elvet Methodist's church.
- County Council supported events and festivals - Miners' Gala (the bands are wonderful), Lumiere, Brass Festival, Book Festival, Street Festival and Town Hall events (e.g. craft fairs)
- Indoor market, and food markets in the market place - gives small independent businesses a chance.
- Small community led groups, including some art groups e.g. at Shakespeare Hall
- The Gala Theatre - screenings of West End / Shakespeare from London the new films from famous theatres, a good range of music, opera and theatre performances. It is an excellent venue- central, comfortable and well built.
- The Empty Shop, Framwellgate Bridge. In 7 years they have hosted 2000 artists, 5000 events and 100,000 visitors
- Potential- small venues in the City e.g. theatre in The Bailey, Little Theatre etc. could be used for many local initiatives
- Fowlers Yard- quaint and unique area, rare opportunity to buy bespoke hand crafted products and see artists at work. 'a real cosy hidden gem, the only artistic hub in the city.'
- There is a large number of artists using many mediums living in and around Durham.
- Small independent shops, if you know where to find them/ Fowlers Yard / Chilli Glass etc.

- Durham Photographic Society
- DLI museum and gallery were good. - DLI is a beautiful venue- keep this as a space for the arts, exhibitions. Make more use of it.
- The newly regenerated Wharton Park.
- Nice hotels.
- Gala Theatre and library
- A strong history including mining
- We have a unique historical city but more could be done to promote its features. We have the framework, now build on it to make a city to be proud of and somewhere people would visit and admire.
- The passion people feel for the City and their concern over its future and lack of protection.
- In a nutshell there is a lot of potential in the City. We just need imagination and enthusiasm to help the arts grow.

**2.B. People who live and work in Durham were asked ‘What’s bad about Durham regarding the artistic and cultural life of the City? This is what they wrote:**

**2.B.1. Lack of community arts facilities**

- No dedicated community art space that is easily accessible so they have to work in classrooms and community centres
- Loss of the mini-artist’s club at the DLI
- The provision for local people to do arts and crafts is poor
- Art groups are run in isolation/ don’t communicate / potential for collaboration
- Not sure all the providers of existing facilities are working together and co-ordinating their activities
- No legacy after festivals and events.
- Not a huge amount of cultural activities going on that everyone can join in on. Maybe due to fact there is no central hub for the arts
- The lack of: Exhibition spaces and artists’ studios, a proper cinema with a wide programme including so-called arthouse movies and a purpose built cultural hub
- Total lack of adult and toddler art classes
- I would like to do pottery, life drawing, modern painting, but there is nothing. Even New College stopped classes.
- No mention of provision for the arts for residents in the County Durham Plan, except in the ‘tourism’ section.
- Very little workshop space
- There is no artistic / cultural heart in the City
- Little in the way of ‘public’ cultural / artistic provision whatsoever for the ‘ordinary citizen’ – young and old

**2.B.2. Issues relating to the arts and cultural events in the City**

- Programme at Gala Theatre and use of facilities very limited- no outreach to student population for good plays and café hours
- No regular art events apart from Lumiere every two years
- No legacy linked to the Lumiere Festival in terms of annual events. Place of Light?
- Very little good theatre and very little good cinema.

- Programme of events at the Gala is very poor- doesn't attract me to book upmost of the year. I understand it is expensive to hire

### **2.B.3. Lack of a City Art Gallery – with particular reference to the closure of the DLI**

- None of the publicity relating to the closure of the DLI covered the fact that the City was losing its only art gallery.
- The City has no art gallery now the DLI has closed. Arts and events brings business to the City and this should continue.
- The demise of the exhibition facility for artists at the DLI and nothing planned to replace it.
- Lack of an art gallery and museum.
- No art gallery/ small and large exhibition space.
- Lack of decent art galleries in Durham City. Where are they?
- Lack of a gallery space and craft shop
- No public art gallery.
- Now DLI has closed there is no gallery space for touring exhibitions.
- The fact that the DCC disbanded the DLI and with it the town's only art gallery
- There isn't anywhere to see works of art now that the DLI museum art gallery has closed. It housed many prestigious exhibitions inside the building and in its grounds. We need somewhere in Durham City Centre to replace it (It wasn't easily accessible on foot or by public transport)
- For artists there isn't anywhere to exhibit their work in Council owned buildings. The same applies to University buildings.
- No art gallery
- No real art galleries
- No gallery / museum showcasing curated exhibitions with local/ national artists
- No museum /art gallery. Restore the DLI!

### **2.B.4. A lack of independent shops**

- Nowhere to display our traditional crafts for example Durham Quilting
- There are no small shops selling traditional crafts
- No antique or junk shops.
- Very downmarket shopping.
- We don't have enough independent shops, small specialist, which tourists seem to think they will find while visiting Durham.
- The rents are appalling – businesses are disappearing one by one.
- Durham Council also need to listen to small businesses or those in business more
- Too many coffee shops and shops lack diversity.
- The rents for retail spaces have escalated making them beyond the reach of local enterprises.

### **2.B.5. Loss of historic buildings and lack of a City or County Museum**

- The lack of a County museum
- No effective interpretation of remarkable history of the City as well as cathedral
- Modest heritage centre, inaccessible and amateur displays
- WHS Centre 7 Owengate- nice setting for exhibitions of local craft but very poor interpretation of significance of Durham WHS
- No City or County Museum.

- Developers are allowed by the Council to demolish historic buildings and damage this popular townscape (see plans for Claypath)
- Too many new developments of modern and impersonal student housing (Durham is losing its historical character)
- Also no central venue for a museum to hold exhibitions of City/ County history.

#### **2.B.6. Lack of a central information ‘hub’**

- No information in the City Centre
- No Tourist information office (x2)
- The appallingly bad publicity about what’s going on
- The lack of a tourist centre to aid visitors- to find out history and interesting events
- Poor information about what is going on
- No tourist centre
- Bad signage to Fowler’s Yard, lack of promotion for artistic hub – a real missed opportunity
- No tourist information centre to publicise events.
- The marketing! Even if there are some good events taking place, they are not advertised properly and people don’t realise they are on until the actual day they happen.
- Lack of information / promotion for areas such as Fowlers Yard! No-one knows about it
- No tourist office
- Poor information regarding what there is/ what’s on
- Poor publicity. Many people say they don’t hear of events and blame not receiving Durham Advertiser. So perhaps a website with news of events to be set up?
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#### **2.B.7. Impact of the University on the arts in the City**

- Everything is geared to students and not residents
- The City is dominated by students which stifles other events
- The permanent community is too small.
- The City and University don’t seem to communicate with each other or have rather different views on what the future of the City should be.
- Insufficient links with the University
- Too many student housing blocks being built, tearing down the historic feel of the City.
- University resources not shared

#### **2.B.8. The built environment**

- The pedestrian streets in the centre are very dirty.
- North Rd is grotty; it needs more quality shops in the heart of the City.
- North Rd; becoming run down, full of temporary /cheap/ closed shops, looks uncared for
- Vennels to Fowlers Yard unclean, smelly and full of litter very hostile for families, visitors and non-punters. It looks like a dumping ground for the Council.
- Waste bins in Fowler’s Yard (up in turning circle) looks ugly, overflowing, smelly, makes area look like like a dumping ground
- Very few good restaurants.

- Bleak state of Millennium Place- supposed to be 'cultural quarter' - a binge drinking culture
- The City is led by developers.
- Evening economy - binge drinkers, cheap take aways not a place to take young and old in the evenings- uncivilised.
- No chance of sitting quietly in the evenings- lack of café culture or a family spending time in the City.
- Too many charity workers, energy providers, big issue sellers. It is impossible to walk to the market square without being stopped.

#### **2.B.9. The natural Environment**

- Very poor decisions about the environment, concerning poisoning (glyphosates) grass with wild flowers.
- Destroying trees on the riverbank, instead of looking at natural and non-destructive repairs.
- Council continues to wreck the river banks with 'development work' chopping 100yr old trees and turning the riverbanks into 'pebble dash' areas.
- This 'City of Flowers' cuts the flower display activities and sprays weed poison all over Durham streets and Greens.
- vehicle pollution

#### **2.B.10. County Council**

- The Council has no interest in the cultural and artistic life of the City, for residents - apart from the big festivals.
- Lack of interest from the Council to discover possible sources of funding to support art, music and culture.
- Very careless and arrogant attitude of our County Council.
- No town council
- Tourist buses need a more convenient site to disembark tourists
- In spite of WHS status there is no diverse artistic and cultural environment.
- Poor governance and stewardship of public assets

### **2.C. People who live and work in Durham were asked 'What needs to change in Durham regarding the artistic and cultural life of the City? This is what they wrote:**

#### **2.C.1. The need for community art spaces for all residents, tourists and students**

- Durham has enormous potential as an international centre for the creative arts.
- A network of Creative Art Centres in and around Durham City – developing local artistic talent.
- We need a full audit of what there is and an identification of the gaps in provision- certainly more workshop spaces
- The image of the City. - it has the potential to be known as a place of interesting music and the arts.
- More workshop spaces studios for artists in the City
- Studios that can be available for individuals, groups and workshops. Potentially this could link with the University which doesn't have art spaces for students
- Workshops (varying sizes) for local people to do arts and crafts via classes or to hire on an individual basis



- The need to establish opportunities for children to develop creative skills.
- To create opportunities for the creative development of residents, which is presently not being met. This needs to change
- To take into account the needs of residents and not only students.
- To create a proper free 'art hub' for the public and artists
- To have a multi -purpose space to hold exhibitions, events, plays, café area, rooms for hire, workshops, activities etc.
- To have a hub for the arts and culture in the City not affiliated with the university or cathedral to be open to all.
- To look to the good examples of these spaces in small towns are a few where I used to live. Stamford Arts Centre held plays by small companies, concerts, art exhibitions, rooms for life drawing etc. It is only small!
- To look at organisations who can help. Metalculture.com creates events and community based arts activities – often working with Councils.
- Cheaper premises for artists to set up businesses
- We need a purpose built or adapted Community Arts Centre which will predominantly serve local people but will also be accessible to students. It should offer performance as well as exhibition spaces, workshops, studio spaces as well as space for people to hold meetings, readings and generally socialize. DREAM ON!
- The potential of Durham City should be used to enhance the artistic 'capital' of County Durham
- My 3 yr. old son used to love the mini-artists at the DLI.
- We need to have an art space for exhibitions and classes, workshops.
- Let's use existing empty buildings, especially DLI for the arts- a beautiful setting.
- The Empty Shop, Framwellgate Bridge, is a great model for the development of the arts in Durham
- Need to encourage new budding artists and musicians.

### **2.C.2. The need for exhibition spaces**

- A main art exhibition space: providing access to the art collection from the DLI plus works of local artists
- More art galleries
- Establish an art gallery for local artists to sell work- in the Gala?
- An art gallery
- Replace the loss of gallery space from the DLI closure- contemporary art is poorly served in the City.
- Replace DLI exhibition space
- More proper affordable art space for exhibitions.
- Venues for art work sales that are not high commission
- More exhibition space/ facilities for the arts, with priorities for local artists
- Create a 'Durham Museum of Art' like Bowes with a programme of changing exhibitions, music and theatre performances. Great for attracting tourists. It can even make a profit! I used to be a co-owner of an Art Centre in Amsterdam and our in-house café earned the salaries for all our (+14) staff! Easy!
- Recognise that Durham without a proper museum for art is shameful! It does not need to be a prestigious impressive building: what goes on inside is important.
- We need more gallery space

### **2.C.3. Use of existing spaces**

- A consultative group of local residents and academics should be set up to explore ways of enhancing programme and use of Gala Theatre
- We need an improvement scheme for Millennium Place
- Make more use of what Durham has to offer e.g. Cathedral and riverside to incorporate local artists / art exhibitions

#### **2.C.4. Events**

- More frequent outdoor music events in e.g. Market Place, Gala Square (orchestras, brass bands, not buskers- already enough)
- Summer art activities (pottery, brass rubbing, weaving) – 6th Form Centre?
- A City of first choice for residents and visitors!
- Regular art events, installations, exhibitions etc. to involve local community / visitors
- Establishing a film festival could be interesting using diffused spaces or unusual spaces like Berwick Film Festival
- Racecourse and riverbanks could provide natural arenas for performances

#### **2.C.5. Need for a central information ‘hub’/ better signage**

- An advertising platform (online and/or physical) where you can find out about many local arts events
- Better publicity. DCC Visit Durham, DU Events Durham and the `cathedral should work together to publicise events
- Improve the DCC Visit Durham website – make it a central place where people go to see everything that’s on.
- Information via all kinds of media- but one central resource with all providers feeding their information into that central resource
- More information about free University lectures and exhibitions
- More information about craft shops in Fowlers Yard
- The re-instatement of Tourist Information Centre
- Better signage to Fowler’s Yard
- Better advertising for all events
- No matter how good an event will be if it is not marketed effectively no-one will know about it, making the event pointless and its potential benefits for the business and tourism of the City practically non-existent.
- There is a serious problem with the marketing of events in Durham which needs to be solved.
- A large information Centre
- Bring back the Tourist Information Bureau.
- To get information and give information just on art and culture.
- A better information centre for residents and tourists
- Publicity for council organised exhibitions for local artists like the DLI museum used to do)
- Tourist information to be made central

#### **2.C.6. Need for a City or County Museum / better interpretation of history of the City/ protection of historic buildings**

- First class museum/ interpretation centre of City’s history
- Project to dramatically enhance the Miners’ Hall for exhibition of mining history in County Durham with relevant attractions and talks

- Museum in the City Centre for tourists and residents.
- A County Museum
- Artistic and musical events are regular, usually high quality and well publicised. But there is limited and fragmented availability of information and media celebrating the history and culture of County Durham itself. (e.g. the Miners' Gala/ Coalfields / DLI/ Prince Bishops/ early archaeology)
- Make historic trails for local people and tourists.
- Tighter planning regulations to stop Durham's historic streets disappearing under inappropriate PVC windows and doors and buildings used for multiple occupation.
- Retention of historic buildings
- Replace DLI with a Durham History Museum

### **2.C.7. Impact of the University on the City**

- More control of where new blocks of student flats are built (there are too many)
- The University and the City should sit to talk to together about the goals for the future more often than they currently do. Having Durham become a big open air museum with no residents and an overwhelming student population will not work to preserve the heritage and make the cultural and artistic life flourish in the future.
- With a glut of student accommodation revitalise the City centre by bringing back access to small terrace houses for first time buyers and small families.
- Concentrate the City Centre on historical/ cultural/ artistic facilities instead of hundreds of student homes. -The balance is completely wrong.
- The University needs to contribute much more to the cultural life of the City
- limit expansion of University
- More co-operation on cultural events between the city and University

### **2.C.8. The built environment**

- The need to re-think the purpose of City Centre's – look to success stories from other towns and cities
- Spend money developing North Rd
- Permanent lighting along the riverside walks bad ones
- With the change and demolition of Milburngate House I hope but think but think this will make a difference to Durham City and will also impact on North Rd hopefully the gateway to the City from the Bus and Coach Station and rail Station too.
- More preservation of the historic side to Durham and put money into facilities for permanent residents rather than just facilities for students.
- There is no pride in keeping buildings and streets tidy and beautiful
- More open areas for families to meet.
- Facilities for teenagers i.e. skate park or the like. (The newly built passport office appeals to attract a number of skaters who have nowhere to expend their energies)
- Do not destroy old buildings from the Victorian era and earlier.
- Fowler's Yard - clean up conceal shop waste disposal bins and vennels

### **2.C.9. Natural environment**

- STOP poisoning green spaces- look to Paris and Vancouver where glyphosate is banned. Both beautiful cultural centres.
- Include green installations- lovely gardens and green spaces
- Use of lighting to create ambiance in the City all year round along the riverbank and the bridges( beyond Christmas)

### **2.C.10. The need for more independent shops**

- Would like to see more independent businesses and speciality shops instead of coffee shop chains
- A more careful selection process for any new shops or businesses in the heart of the City so new ventures chosen complement / add to attraction of Durham more.
- Some up market shops

### **2.C.11. The County Council**

- Council could support artistic businesses more i.e. Fowlers Yard promotion of proper signage
- More careful attention from planners to the natural beauty of Durham, historic streets rather than first tearing down buildings for money making purposes.
- Attitude of the Council. Find a person with imagination and willingness to 'think outside the box' and develop Durham as a place of creativity.
- The Council should avoid tacky income generating schemes just because they make money. Promote the arts!

### **2.C.12. Community**

- A City Centre that is welcoming and 'user friendly'
- Support families returning to the City
- Create stronger community groups and thus a stronger community
- Students in colleges and residents in houses

### **2.C.13. General**

- All what's 'bad' puts Durham to shame and we are very much lacking in the area especially now that the DLI has closed.
- Durham is a world class University. Our City need to be able to offer what you find in Oxford or Cambridge.
- The building where there will be another restaurant and yet more cinema screens should become a museum, including a DLI section, a historical tour, showing how parts link up and pointing to the special museums e.g. Beamish, Palace Green and a wildlife section.
- Xmas lights in the town; are very old and dated. Some new tasteful lights (that extend to Fowler's Yard) would be great
- Too little priority given to pictorial art
- Not just 'children's programmes'- art for all artists
- More emphasis on tourism, less on business centres
- Need for less traffic in city centres
- Less traffic in the City Centre, especially taxis
- Need to rethink purpose of town centre.
- Currently known for binge drinking, hen/stag parties, drunken students (not safe to walk out at night)
- Change the person booking acts at The Gala
- I opened the Crushed Chilli Gallery 5 years ago and without any grants or funding, have built a successful workshop and gallery shop supporting local artists to sell their work.

### 3. ARTS AND CULTURE QUESTIONNAIRE, 2016 - INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES

28 people responded:

Postal code: DH1 26, no response 2

Live in Durham City: 23

Permanent resident: 23

HE/FE student: 1

Work in Durham city: 9

Run a business in Durham City: 11

No	What is Good About Arts and Culture in Durham City	What is Bad About Arts and Culture in Durham City	What Needs to Change
1	<p>Lots of cultural events at Oriental Museum and Palace Green</p> <p>Small community led art groups e.g. art group at Shakespeare Hall</p>	<p>Art groups are run in isolation/ don't communicate / potential for collaboration</p> <p>No dedicated community art space that is easily accessible so they have to work in classrooms and community centres</p>	<p>More spaces for artists in the City, studios for artists in the City. Studios that can be available for individuals , groups and workshops.</p> <p>Potentially this could link with the University which doesn't have art spaces for students</p> <p>An advertising platform ( online and/or physical) where you can find out about many local arts events</p>
2	<p>The new films from from famous theatres</p> <p>The many cultural and arts activities that go on around the City</p>	<p>The appallingly bad publicity about what's going on</p> <p>The lack of a County museum</p> <p>The lack of a tourist centre to aid visitors to find out history and interesting events</p>	<p>Publicity – DCC Visit Durham ? DU Events Durham and the `cathedral should work together to publicise</p> <p>The building where there will be another restaurant and yet more cinema screens should become a museum, including a DLI section, a historical tour, showing how parts link up and pointing to the special museums e.g. Beamish, Palace Green and a wildlife</p>

			section
3	Lots of events going on- Gala, University, Cathedral, local groups etc	<p>Poor information about what is going on</p> <p>Not sure all the providers are working together and co-ordinating their activities</p> <p>provision for local people to do arts and crafts is poor</p> <p>no art gallery</p>	<p>Information via all kinds of media- but one central resource with all providers feeding their information into that central resource</p> <p>workshops ( varying sizes ) for local people to do arts and crafts via classes or to hire on an individual basis</p> <p>main art exhibition space: providing access to the art collection from the DLI plus works of local artists</p>
4	It is beautiful- if you are a photographer or an artist there is plenty to inspire you. The students and tourists give town vitality. There is the Oriental Museum and Botanic Gardens.	<p>No tourist centre</p> <p>Nowhere to display our traditional crafts for example Durham Quilting</p> <p>There are no small shops selling traditional crafts</p>	<p>more information about free University lectures and exhibitions</p> <p>more information about craft shops in Fowlers Yard</p> <p>More cheaper premises for artists to set up businesses</p>
5	<p>History and Heritage –</p> <p>Range of references in both architecture and local history to such a long period of settlement including -</p> <p>995 arrival of St. Cuthbert</p> <p>1093 building of cathedral and castle.-</p> <p>Development of medieval town- craft guilds, mills, manors, jurisdiction of Prince Bishops and Palatinate power</p> <p>Early manufacturing and carpet making</p> <p>17th and 18th centuries comparative</p> <p>peace and garden development around Peninsular</p> <p>Building of Viaduct</p> <p>Mining</p>	<p>No effective interpretation of remarkable history of the City as well as cathedral</p> <p>Modest heritage centre, inaccessible and amateur displays</p> <p>WHS Centre 7 Owengate- nice setting for exhibitions of local craft but very poor interpretation of significance of Durham WHS</p> <p>Bleak state of Millennium Place- supposed to be ‘cultural quarter’</p> <p>weekend ‘thriving’ evening economy – very</p>	<p>Re-instatement of Tourist Information Centre</p> <p>First class museum/ interpretation centre of City’s history</p> <p>Project to dramatically enhance the Miners’ Hall for exhibition of mining history in County Durham with relevant attractions and talks</p> <p>Consultative group of local residents and academics to explore ways of enhancing programme and use of Gala Theatre</p>

	<p>Natural Environment Beautiful setting with riverside walks and accessible routes, paths to natural landscape</p>	<p>hostile for families, visitors and non-punters</p> <p>Programme at Gala Theatre and use of facilities very limited- no outreach to student population for good plays and café hours are ridiculously limited</p>	<p>Improvement scheme for Millennium Place</p> <p>Really good signposting to Crook Hall, Fowlers Yard Craft Units, Miners' Hall and other places of interest</p> <p>Range of leaflets with good maps for walks and heritage trails</p>
6	<p>Beautiful cathedral City, ability to walk around the river yet be minutes away from the town. Old fashioned and historical buildings, sense of history and gives town a unique character.</p> <p>Fowlers Yard- quaint and unique area, rare opportunity to buy bespoke hand crafted products and see artists at work.</p> <p>Gala Theatre – good range of music and theatre performances</p> <p>Brass Festival, Lumiere, indoor market, and food markets in the market place.</p>	<p>Bad signage to Fowler's Yard, lack of promotion for artistic hub – a real missed opportunity</p> <p>Too many new developments of modern and impersonal student housing ( Durham is losing its historical character)</p> <p>North Rd; becoming run down, full of temporary /cheap/ closed shops, looks uncared for</p> <p>Waste bins in Fowler's Yard (up in turning circle) looks ugly, overflowing, smelly, makes area look like like a dumping ground</p> <p>Vennels to Fowlers Yard unclean, smelly and full of litter</p>	<p>More control of where new blocks of student flats are built ( there are too many)</p> <p>Fowler's Yard ; better signage, clean up conceal shop waste disposal bins and vennels</p> <p>spend money developing North Rd</p> <p>Would like to see more independent businesses and speciality shops instead of coffee shop chains</p> <p>Xmas lights in the town; are very old and dated. Some new tasteful lights (that extend to Fowler's Yard) would be great</p> <p>Permanent lighting along the riverside walks bad ones</p> <p>more frequent outdoor music events in e.g. Market Place, Gala Square ( orchestras, brass bands, not buskers- already enough</p>
7	<p>Everything you need in a small picturesque city with a river, cathedral, motorway and main line to London and Edinburgh.</p>	<p>Lacking an art gallery now the DLI has closed. Arts and events brings business to the City and this should continue.</p>	<p>With the change and demolition of Milburngate House I hope but think but think this will make a difference to Durham City and will also impact on North Rd hopefully</p>

	<p>Plus World Heritage status and other events – Miners’ Gala, Lumiere, etc Durham Market too.</p>	<p>Durham Council also need to listen to small businesses or those in business more</p>	<p>the gateway to the City from the Bus and Coach Station and rail Station too.</p>
8	<p>The Cathedral brings in lots of tourists- a great venue for concerts</p> <p>The river – beautiful walks right in the centre of the City</p> <p>Gala Theatre/ square</p> <p>Fowlers Yard – a real cosy hidden gem, the only artistic hub in the city.</p> <p>The market (and covered) gives small independent businesses a chance.</p>	<p>Lack of information / promotion for areas such as Fowlers Yard! No-one knows about it. Also area at the top of the street looks like a dumping ground for the Council.</p> <p>Lack of decent art galleries in Durham . Where are they?</p> <p>North Rd is grotty; it needs more quality shops in the heart of the City.</p> <p>Too many coffee shops and shops lack diversity</p> <p>too many student housing blocks being built, tearing down the historic feel of the City.</p>	<p>Council could support artistic businesses more i.e. Fowlers Yard promotion of proper signage</p> <p>more art galleries</p> <p>more preservation of the historic side to Durham and put money into facilities for permanent residents rather than just facilities for students.</p> <p>A more careful selection process for any new shops or businesses in the heart of the City so new ventures chosen complement / add to attraction of Durham more.</p> <p>more careful attention from planners to the natural beauty of Durham, historic streets rather than first tearing down buildings for money making</p>
9	<p>DLI museum and gallery were good.</p> <p>Gala Theatre is good</p> <p>as well as Botanic Gardens.</p> <p>Opportunities from the University and Cathedral are good.</p> <p>Events in the churches e.g. concerts in St. Godric’s and Elvet Methodist’s church.</p>	<p>The loss of the DLI- especially the mini-artist’s club.</p> <p>Lack of an art gallery and museum.</p> <p>No tourist information centre to publicise events.</p> <p>Insufficient links with the University</p> <p>No legacy after festivals and events</p>	<p>The need to establish opportunities for children to develop creative skills.</p> <p>Summer art activities ( pottery, brass rubbing, weaving) – 6th Form Centre?</p> <p>Establish an art gallery for local artists to sell work- in the Gala?</p> <p>Museum in the City Centre for tourists and residents.</p>



10	<p>Historic sites – cathedral, castle etc.</p> <p>Fowler’s Yard</p> <p>Riverside</p>	<p>Lack of a gallery space and craft shop</p> <p>No regular art events apart from Lumiere every two years.</p>	<p>Regular art events, installations, exhibitions etc to involve local community / visitors</p> <p>Any events that do occur need better advertising</p> <p>Make more use of what Durham has to offer e.g. Cathedral and riverside to incorporate local artists / art exhibitions</p>
11	<p>There are a variety of events taking place across the year and a rich heritage on which to build upon</p>	<p>The marketing! Even if there are some good events taking place, they are not advertised properly and people don’t realise they are on till the actual day they happen.</p> <p>The City and University don’t seem to communicate with each other or have rather different views on what the future of the City should be.</p> <p>The rents are appalling – businesses are disappearing one by one.</p>	<p>No matter how good an event will be if it is not marketed effectively no-one will know about it, making the event pointless and its potential benefits for the business and tourism of the City practically non-existent.</p> <p>There is a serious problem with the marketing of events in Durham which needs to be solved.</p> <p>The University and the City should sit to talk to together about the goals for the future more often than they currently do.</p> <p>Having Durham become a big open air museum with no residents and an overwhelming student population will not work to preserve the heritage and make the cultural and artistic life flourish in the future.</p>
12	<p>The Peninsular with Cathedral, Castle and ancillary buildings around Palace Green, the old bridges and the riverbank walks.</p> <p>High quality music from the City and University.</p>	<p>No public art gallery.</p> <p>No City or County Museum.</p> <p>Very little good theatre and very little good cinema.</p>	<p>With a glut of student accommodation revitalise the City centre by bringing back access to small terrace houses for first time buyers and small families.</p> <p>We also need : An art gallery</p>

	<p>The small compact nature of the city with quick access to green fields (Green Belt)</p>	<p>Very few good restaurants.</p> <p>No information office in the City Centre</p> <p>No antique or junk shops.</p> <p>Very downmarket shopping.</p>	<p>A County Museum Large information Centre Some up market shops</p> <p>Durham is a world class University. Our City need to be able to offer what you find in Oxford or Cambridge.</p>
13	<p>University–led temporary exhibitions on Palace Green</p> <p>Cathedral – in itself and associated WHS Centre as a concert venue.</p> <p>Craft Fairs in the Town Hall.</p> <p>Gala Theatre – programme is usually a good mix of live theatre, concerts, operas and screenings of West End / Shakespeare from London</p> <p>Small scale concerts at other City venues (e.g. local churches)</p> <p>Street Festivals (e.g. Brass and Book Festival)</p>	<p>Now DLI has closed there is no gallery space for touring exhibitions.</p> <p>Also no central venue for a museum to hold exhibitions of City/ County history.</p>	<p>Artistic and musical events are regular, usually high quality and well publicised.</p> <p>But there is limited and fragmented availability of information and media celebrating the history and culture of County Durham itself ( e.g. the Miners’ Gala/ Coalfields / DLI/ Prince Bishops/ early archaeology )</p> <p>And City needs to replace loss of gallery space from the DLI closure- contemporary art is poorly served in the City.</p>
14	<p>We have a unique historical city but more could be done to promote its features. We have the framework ,now build on it to make a city to be proud of and somewhere people would visit and admire.</p>	<p>There isn’t anywhere to see works of art now that the DLI museum art gallery has closed. It housed many prestigious exhibitions inside the building and in its grounds.</p> <p>We <u>need</u> somewhere in Durham City Centre to replace it (It wasn’t easily accessible on foot or by public transport)</p>	<p>Bring back the Tourist Information Bureau.</p> <p>Make historic trails for local people and tourists.</p> <p>Tighter planning regulations to stop Durham’s historic streets disappearing under inappropriate PVC windows and doors and buildings used for multiple occupation.</p>

			<p>Concentrate the City Centre on historical/ cultural/ artistic facilities instead of hundreds of student homes. -The balance is completely wrong.</p> <p>There is no pride in keeping buildings and streets tidy</p>
15	<p>Gala theatre for both live shows and link ups.</p> <p>Oriental Museum</p> <p>Botanical Gardens</p> <p>2 small cultural museums above all family friendly</p> <p>The newly regenerated Wharton Park.</p>	<p>The fact that the DCC disbanded the DLI</p> <p>No real art galleries</p> <p>No Tourist information office.</p>	<p>Take into account the needs of <u>residents</u> and not only students.</p> <p>More open areas for families to meet.</p> <p>Facilities for teenagers i.e. skate park or the like. (The newly built passport office appeals to attract a number of skaters who have nowhere to expend their energies)</p>
16	<p>A historic city with beautiful buildings and river and river banks for inspiration</p>	<p><u>Very</u> careless and arrogant attitude of our County Council.</p> <p><u>Very</u> poor decisions about the environment, concerning poisoning (glyphosates) grass with wild flowers.</p> <p>Destroying trees on the riverbank, instead of looking at natural and non-destructive repairs.</p> <p>A useless attitude for artistic inspiration and natural beauty of Durham.</p>	<p>More proper affordable art space for exhibitions.</p> <p>Not high commission venues for art work sales.</p> <p>Too little priority given to pictorial art</p> <p>Not just 'children's programmes'- art for all artists</p> <p>Replace DLI exhibition space</p> <p>STOP poisoning green spaces- look to Paris and Vancouver where glyphosate is banned. Both beautiful cultural centres.</p>

			<p>Do not destroy old buildings from the Victorian era and earlier.</p> <p>Create a proper free 'art hub' for the public and artists</p> <p>To get information and give information just on art and culture</p>
17	<p>Historic landscape; nearby river with patches of undisturbed nature.</p> <p>A nice theatre and cinema (Gala)</p>	<p>Developers are allowed by the Council to demolish historic buildings and damage this popular townscape (see plans for new library near cathedral)</p> <p>Council continues to wreck the river banks with 'development work' chopping 100yr old trees and turning the riverbanks into 'pebble dash' areas.</p> <p>This 'City of Flowers' cuts the flower display activities and sprays weed poison all over Durham streets and Greens.</p> <p>For artists there isn't anywhere to exhibit their work in Council owned buildings. The same applies to University buildings.</p> <p>The demise of the exhibition facility for artists at the DLI and nothing planned to replace it.</p>	<p>More exhibition space/ facilities for the arts, with priorities for local artists</p> <p>publicity for council organised exhibitions for local artists (like the DLI museum used to do)</p> <p>create a 'Durham Museum of Art' like Bowes with a programme of changing exhibitions, music and theatre performances. Great for attracting tourists. It can even make a profit!</p> <p>I used to be a co-owner of an Art Centre in Amsterdam and our in-house café earned the salaries for all our (+14) staff! Easy!</p> <p>Durham without a proper museum for art – Shame! It does not need to be a prestigious impressive building: what goes on inside is important</p>
18	<p>The Empty Shop- all their events</p> <p>Gala Theatre (but can't always afford to go to the events regularly)</p>	<p>Not a huge amount of cultural activities going on that everyone can join in on. Maybe due to fact there is no central hub for the arts.</p>	<p>Would be great to have a multi purpose space to hold exhibitions, events, plays, café area, rooms for hire, workshops, activities etc</p>

		No gallery / museum showcasing curated exhibitions with local/ national artists	<p>A hub for arts and culture in the City not affiliated with the university or cathedral to be open to all.</p> <p>Establishing a film festival could be interesting using diffused spaces or unusual spaces like Berwick Film Festival.</p> <p>Good examples of these spaces in small towns are a few where I used to live. Stamford Arts Centre held plays by small companies, concerts, art exhibitions, rooms for life drawing etc. It is only small!</p> <p>Metalculture.com creates events and community based arts activities – often working with Councils.</p>
19	<p>Concerts in the Cathedral and other venues</p> <p>The improved programming at the Gala Theatre and Cinema</p> <p>The occasional exhibitions put on by the University</p> <p>The Gulbenkian Museum</p> <p>The Brass Festival</p> <p>Lumiere</p>	<p>The lack of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exhibition spaces and artists' studios</li> <li>2. A proper cinema with a wide programme including so-called arthouse movies</li> <li>3. A purpose built cultural hub</li> </ol>	<p>The University needs to contribute much more to the cultural life of the City</p> <p>We need a purpose built or adapted Community Arts Centre which will predominantly serve local people but will also be accessible to students. It should offer performance as well as exhibition spaces, workshops, studio spaces as well as space for people to hold meetings, readings and generally socialize.</p> <p>DREAM ON!</p>
20	<p>World heritage site</p> <p>University</p>	<p>No town council</p> <p>No tourist office</p>	<p>(see also what is bad)</p> <p>Retention of historic buildings</p>

	<p>Strong (mining) communities</p> <p>tourist attractions</p> <p>main transport links</p> <p>proximity to the seaside, moors, etc</p> <p>riverside</p> <p>trees</p> <p>good schools</p> <p>Park and Ride</p>	<p>vehicle pollution</p> <p>Evening economy</p> <p>Tourist buses need a more convenient site to disembark tourists</p>	<p>Replace DLI with a Durham History Museum</p> <p>More emphasis on tourism, less on business centres</p> <p>less traffic in city centres</p> <p>limit expansion of University</p> <p>less traffic in the City Centre, especially taxis</p> <p>More co-operation on cultural events between the city and University</p>
21	<p>exhibitions at the Cathedral</p> <p>Festivals e.g. Durham Brass</p>	<p>Everything is geared to students and not residents</p>	<p>More gallery space</p>
22	<p>Lumiere</p> <p>Gala Theatre</p> <p>Botanic Gardens and events there for kids</p> <p>-</p>	<p>No art gallery</p> <p>No Tourist information</p> <p>Total lack of adult and toddler art classes</p> <p>I would like to do pottery, life drawing, modern painting, but there is nothing. Even New College stopped classes.</p>	<p>We need to have an art space for exhibitions and classes, workshops.</p> <p>My 3 yr old son used to love the mini-artists at the DLI.</p>
23	<p>Durham Photographic Society</p> <p>Gala Theatre/ workshops/ room for hire</p> <p>Cathedral 'outreach' programme</p> <p>University exhibition space and 'workshop'</p>	<p>Attached note from Durham Chamber of Trade: comments have been inserted into section 2 above.</p>	<p>Attached note re 'Artworks' which was composed many years ago but still relevant in 2016: comments have been inserted into section 2 above.</p> <p>The potential of Durham City should be used to enhance the artistic 'capital' of</p>

	<p>capacity at Palace Green Library</p> <p>Major DCC supported events / Lumiere/ Book Festival</p> <p>Great potential if workspace / hub could be provided</p>		County Durham
24	<p>The WHS</p> <p>The green peninsular</p> <p>The Festivals and events</p> <p>The Gala Theatre</p> <p>The passion people feel for the City and their concern over its future and lack of protection.</p> <p>The Empty Shop, Framwellgate - 100,000 visitors, 2000 artists and 500 events over 7 years.</p>	<p>The Council has no interest in the cultural and artistic life of the City, for residents- apart from the big festivals.</p> <p>No mention in the County Durham Pan except in the 'tourism' section.</p> <p>No art gallery/ small and large exhibition space.</p> <p>Very little workshop space</p> <p>Poor information regarding what there is/ what's on</p>	<p>A full audit of what there is.</p> <p>An identification of the gaps.</p> <p>Use existing empty buildings especially DLI for the arts- a beautiful setting.</p> <p>Empty Shop in Durham is a great model</p> <p>A better information centre for residents and tourists</p> <p>Need to rethink purpose of town centre- a place for experiences</p>
25	<p>In a nutshell there is a lot of potential in the City. We just need imagination and enthusiasm to help the arts grow.</p> <p>The Gala Theatre is an excellent venue- central, comfortable and well built.</p> <p>small independent shops, if you know where to find them/ Fowlers Yard / Chilli Glass etc</p> <p>Potential- small venues in the City e.g. theatre in The Bailey, Little Theatre etc</p>	<p>Programme of events at the Gala is very poor- doesn't attract me to book upmost of the year. I understand it is expensive to hire.</p> <p>No museum /art gallery. Restore the DLI!</p> <p>Lack of interest from the Council to discover possible sources of funding to support art, music and culture.</p> <p>NB –publicity. Many people say they don't hear of events and blame not receiving Durham Advertiser. So perhaps a website</p>	<p>The image of the City. - potential to be known as a place of interesting music and arts.</p> <p>Currently known for binge drinking, hen/stag parties, drunken students (not safe to walk out at night)</p> <p>Attitude of the Council. Find a person with imagination and willingness to 'think outside the box' and develop Durham as a place of creativity.</p>

	<p>could be used for many local initiatives</p> <p>NB DLI is a beautiful venue- keep this as a space for the arts, exhibitions. Make more use of it.</p> <p>A wide mix of people and easy train link, could be used/ encouraged to 'sell' and support a wide programme of events</p>	<p>with news of events to be set up?</p> <p>Binge drinkers, cheap take aways- not a place to take young and old in the evenings- uncivilised.</p> <p>No chance of sitting quietly in the evenings- lack of café culture or a family spending time in the City.</p>	<p>Avoid tacky income generating schemes just because they make money. Promote the arts!</p> <p>Encourage new budding artists and musicians.</p> <p>Change the person booking acts at The Gala</p> <p>Include green installations- lovely gardens and green spaces</p>
26	<p>Cathedral, music and general contribution</p> <p>Bands at the Miners' Gala</p> <p>Visiting troupes (e.g. Chamberlain's men)</p>	<p>Dominated by students stifles other events</p> <p>Too small permanent community</p>	<p>We need:</p> <p>Families returning to the City</p> <p>Stronger community groups</p> <p>Stronger community</p> <p>Students in colleges</p> <p>Residents in houses</p>
27	<p>We have a beautiful city with a fantastic Cathedral and Castle which attracts lots of visitors each year.</p> <p>There is a large number of artists using many mediums living in and around Durham.</p> <p>Nice hotels.</p>	<p>We don't have enough independent shops, small specialist, which tourists seem to think they will find while visiting Durham.</p> <p>The pedestrian streets in the centre are very dirty.</p> <p>Too many charity workers, energy providers, big issue sellers. It is impossible to walk to the market square without being stopped.</p>	<p>All the above really put Durham to shame and we are very much lacking in the area especially now that the DLI has closed.</p> <p>I opened the Crushed Chilli Gallery 5 years ago and without any grants or funding, have built a successful workshop and gallery shop supporting local artists to sell their work.</p>



		I run a business in the City. Crushed Chilli Gallery	
28	<p>Durham recognised internationally as having a WHS and a world class university</p> <p>Gala Theatre and library</p> <p>Cathedral thought of as the 'jewel in the crown' of the NE Culture.</p>	<p>In spite of WHS status there is no diverse artistic and cultural environment.</p> <p>there is no artistic / cultural heart in the City</p> <p>Little in the way of 'public' cultural / artistic provision whatsoever for the 'ordinary citizen' – young and old</p> <p>University resources not shared</p> <p>poor governance and stewardship of public assets</p> <p>binge drinking culture</p> <p>The City is developer led</p> <p>The rents for retail spaces have escalated making them beyond the reach of local enterprises.</p>	<p>Durham's enormous potential as an international centre for the creative arts.</p> <p>A City of first choice for residents and visitors!</p> <p>Tourist information to be made central</p> <p>Use of lighting to create ambiance in the City all year round along the riverbank and the bridges( beyond Christmas)</p> <p>Racecourse and riverbanks could provide natural arenas for performances</p> <p>A network of Creative Art Centres in and around Durham City – developing local artistic talent.</p> <p>A City Centre that is welcoming and 'user friendly'</p>