

[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 02 February 2017 09:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk; European Capital of Culture 2023
Subject: Re: European City of Culture (ECofC) 2023 - possible joint bid by Belfast & Derry

Good morning [REDACTED]

At this stage we do not have a date confirmed for the European Capital of Culture information event. We are looking to have the date confirmed by the end of the week, we will let all interested cities know as soon as we do so you can arrange travel.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

On 2 February 2017 at 09:10, [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning!

Would it be possible update myself and my colleague [REDACTED] (Derry Strabane Council) on the planned briefing session on the 24 & 25 February 2017 in Liverpool?

This will allow both of us to arrange suitable travel plans, so any assistance would be very much appreciated.

Regards

[REDACTED] City Events Unit, Belfast City Council, 9-21 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8DJ

Ph. 00 44 28 90270341 M. 00 44 7827 928 045 www.belfastcity.gov.uk/events

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[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 February 2017 16:50
To: European Capital of Culture 2023
Subject: European Capital of Culture 2023 information event

On the 16 December the Department for Culture, Media and Sport launched the competition to select a UK city to host the European Capital of Culture title in 2023. As part of the competition, we would like to invite you to an information event for interested cities and their partners to find out more about the competition process and hear from those who have participated in the process before.

The event will take place at the Liverpool Philharmonic on Thursday 2 March, to RSVP to this event please use the following link (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/european-capital-of-culture-2023-information-event-tickets-31926475949>).

This event is solely aimed at those cities interested in bidding for the title of the European Capital of Culture 2023; third parties are welcome to attend the event but only as a guest of an attending city.

Culture Liverpool have kindly offered to organise trips after the information event for any interested city; these trips could encompass speaking to sectors that were involved in their year as European Capital of Culture 2008, or to see examples of the legacy of community programming or the physical legacy of increased tourism. If you would be interested in attending a trip with Culture Liverpool then please contact us at europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk and we will coordinate with Culture Liverpool; any other suggestions for trips are also welcome.

If you have any questions regarding the event, then please contact us at europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 February 2017 13:07
To: European Capital of Culture 2023
Subject: Re: European Capital of Culture 2023 information event

Good afternoon,

I am writing to remind you all that the Department for Culture, Media and Sport is hosting an information event on 2 March at the Liverpool Philharmonic, please click [here](#) to register for the event if you have not already done so.

This event is solely designed to aid cities in preparing their bids for the European Capital of Culture title, so I would encourage interested cities to attend. There will be speeches and panel discussions with past, present and future European Capital of Culture title holders.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is also holding an information event for the UK City of Culture competition in Hull on the 6 and 7 March. The programme on the 7 March will be delivered by Hull on their experience of bidding and organising the competition. If any of you would be interested in attending this part of the event, then please do contact us at the email address below.

If you have any questions regarding the event, then please contact us at europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk.

Many thanks and good luck with your bids,

On 10 February 2017 at 16:49, europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk> wrote:
On the 16 December the Department for Culture, Media and Sport launched the competition to select a UK city to host the European Capital of Culture title in 2023. As part of the competition, we would like to invite you to an information event for interested cities and their partners to find out more about the competition process and hear from those who have participated in the process before.

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This event is solely aimed at those cities interested in bidding for the title of the European Capital of Culture 2023; third parties are welcome to attend the event but only as a guest of an attending city.

Culture Liverpool have kindly offered to organise trips after the information event for any interested city; these trips could encompass speaking to sectors that were involved in their year as European Capital of Culture 2008, or to see examples of the legacy of community programming or the physical legacy of increased tourism. If you would be interested in attending a trip with Culture Liverpool then please contact us at europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk and we will coordinate with Culture Liverpool; any other suggestions for trips are also welcome.



From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 February 2017 16:54
To: European Capital of Culture 2023
Subject: European Capital of Culture information event

Good afternoon,

We are currently finalising logistics for the event, and I would be grateful if you could let us know of any dietary requirements that we should be aware of; and also if you have any accessibility issues we should know of. Please can you inform us by 4pm Monday 27 Feb.

We will be circulating the agenda for the event on Monday.

Many thanks,



[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 27 February 2017 17:04
To: European Capital of Culture 2023
Subject: European Capital of Culture information event
Attachments: EuropeanCapitalofCulture2023event-agenda.docx

Thank you all for registering for the information event we are hosting on Thursday, I have attached the agenda for the day for your reference.

To note - on the day of the event you will need to enter via the Music Room entrance which is located on Sugnall Street at the back of the building.

We look forward to meeting you all on Thursday.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

European Capital of Culture 2023 information event
2 March 2017 - Agenda

12:30 - Guests arrive

12:45 - [REDACTED] (DCMS)

13:05 - [REDACTED] (Director, Culture Liverpool)

13:30 - Lunch

14:30 - [REDACTED] (ex chair of the ECoC panel)

15:30 - Panel discussion chaired by [REDACTED], members include

- [REDACTED] (Galway)
- [REDACTED] (Aarhus)

16:15 - Close

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 March 2017 13:03
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@belfastcity.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: ECoC 2023 Seminar Pécs - invitation and programme
Attachments: ECoC 2023 seminar invitation.pdf; ECoC 2023 seminar program_2103.pdf

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Please find attached an invitation to a ECoC 2023 candidates seminar taking place in Pecs, Hungary on 26 and 27 April 2017.

We have been asked to extend the invitation to all UK bidding cities.

All the details, including link to registration website, is in the attached documents.

It is of course voluntary, but if you do go please kindly let me know and I welcome any feedback after the event.

If you have any questions, am happy to put you in touch with Dr Marton Mehes, Seminar Project Leader.

Kind Regards


Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

[REDACTED]
Policy Adviser, First World War Centenary and Culture Competitions
4th Floor, 100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ

[REDACTED] [@culture.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk) 020 7211 6476
 [@dcms](https://twitter.com/dcms)  [/dcmsgovuk](https://www.facebook.com/dcmsgovuk) | www.gov.uk/dcms



Europe's Capital is Culture

European Capitals of Culture and Hungary 2023
Európa Kulturális Fővárosai és Magyarország 2023

Europe's Capital is Culture – Hungary 2023

ECoC 2023 Candidates Seminar
26-27 April 2017, Pécs, Kodály Center

INVITATION

Dear ECoC Candidate City,

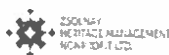
On behalf of Zsolnay Heritage Management Nonprofit Ltd and in cooperation with the Hungarian Ministry of Human Capacities we hereby kindly invite your ECoC teams and ECoC responsible officers to a one-day intensive ECoC seminar which will take place on 27 April 2017 in the former Hungarian ECoC 2010 – Pécs.

Please find the detailed seminar description and the schedule in the attachment.

Please note that the seminar is not a protocol event but a concrete and interactive education and exchange activity. Nevertheless we would like to open the floor to the mayors and further city representatives for mutual exchange with the lecturers, colleagues and teams. Therefore an extended pre eve reception will take place on 26 April, from 1900 at Cella Septichora ancient Roman chapel, UNESCO World Heritage Site (see programme in the attachment).

Why do we recommend this seminar to all candidate city teams?

- Meet several outstanding ECoC experts and leaders at once instead of spending a lot of money for additional external consultations. Ask them directly in closed sessions or even face to face.
- Lecturers will share personal experiences and specific know-how with you that you might hardly achieve by yourself without investing a lot of money and capacity.
- Meet and discuss cooperation potentials with the city teams from Hungary at one place without traveling around the country.
- Meet other ECoC representatives like from Rijeka, Timișoara or Novi Sad.
- Talk to your own competitors from the UK! It fosters the spirit of cooperation.





Europe's Capital is Culture

European Capitals of Culture and Hungary 2023
Európa Kulturális Fővárosai és Magyarország 2023

The most important seminar facts and information?

- Seminar sessions will be held only in English.
- As the sessions run simultaneously, we highly recommend to delegate one participant to each session.
- Registration is required. Registration fee: 50.000 HUF or 165 EUR p.p., including access to the get-together eve, the sessions, the seminar materials, meals and coffee. Reductions: if 2 persons register for the same city: 90.000 HUF (295 EUR), 3 persons: only 120.000 HUF (390 EUR).

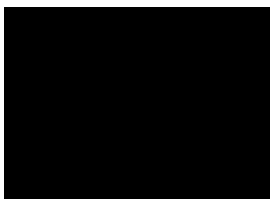
Practical information, contact and registration?

- In the attached programme you can find the seminar website with the online seminar registration and further information.
- Please book your accommodation by yourself. You can find recommended hotels on the seminar website.
- In case of any organizational questions please contact Mr Sámuel Kőszegi from Zsolnay Heritage Management Nonprofit Ltd (koszegi.samuel@zsn.hu)

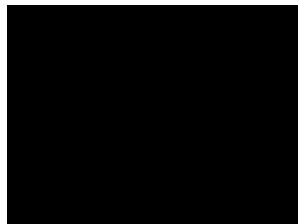
As the only Hungarian ECoC so far, Pécs is proud to host this preparatory event of the 2023 candidate cities from the UK and Hungary!

We wish all applying cities and ECoC teams success and good luck for their preparations! Let's come together in Pécs,

sincerely

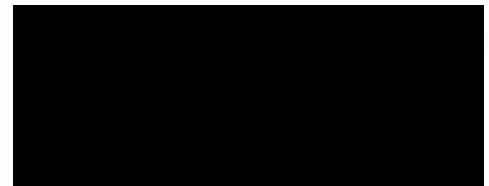


Balázs Vincze
General manager



Gábor Móczár
Manager of international relations

Pécs, 20 March 2017



Dr. Márton Méhes
Seminar project leader





Europe's Capital is Culture

European Capitals of Culture and Hungary 2023
Európa Kulturális Fővárosai és Magyarország 2023

Europe's Capital is Culture – European Capitals of Culture and Hungary 2023

ECOC 2023 Candidates Seminar

26-27 April 2017, Pécs, Kodály Center

Preliminary programme

We, 26 April

Afternoon
1900

Arrivals, check-in
Opening Reception by invitation of the Mayor of Pécs, Dr. Zsolt Páva

(venue: Cella Septichora Ancient Roman Chapel – UNESCO World Heritage Site);

Welcome address by

Dr. Péter Hoppál, State Minister for Culture, Hungary

What has the ECOC brought to Pécs?

It is seven years since Pécs hosted a European Capital of Culture: what are the long term benefits and lessons learnt?

Dr. Zsolt Páva, Mayor of Pécs

The story of the „biking Dutchman”

Simon Wintermans, the Pécs ECOC-biker

Thu, 27 April

0930

Plenary opening – Welcome address by
N.N., City of Pécs

Update on the competition process

Gloria Lorenzo-Lerones, European Commission

1000

What is an ECOC in the 2020s? From cultural strategy to legacy
Steve Green (UK), former chair of the selection panel for ECOC

1115

Coffee Break





Europe's Capital is Culture

European Capitals of Culture and Hungary 2023
Európa Kulturális Fővárosai és Magyarország 2023

1145

ECoC Seminar – 3 parallel sessions (part 1)

a) A European ECoC – The European dimension

Irena Kregar-Segota (HR), Rijeka 2020

Petr Šimon (CZ), former Plzeň 2015 manager

b) A cultural ECoC – The artistic vision through to sustainability

Caroline Kadziola (BE), Mons 2015/2025

c) A peoples' ECoC – Involving your citizens

Simona Neumann (RO), Timișoara 2021

*Christian Potiron (FR), ex Košice 2013 and Plzeň 2015,
director of the Center for Contemporary Arts Bratislava*

1300

Lunch

1400

ECoC Seminar – 3 parallel sessions (part 2)

a) The challenges of the bidding process

Vuk Radulović (RS), Novi Sad 2021

Steve Green (UK), former chair of the selection panel for ECoC

b) The plan „B” and the candidacy as a chance

*Rarița Zbranca (RO), Cluj-Napoca former 2021 Candidate City,
programme director of Cluj Cultural Center*

c) Capacity building and the participation of the local cultural scene

Petr Šimon (CZ), former Plzeň 2015 manager

*Christian Potiron (FR), ex Košice 2013 and Plzeň 2015,
director of the Center for Contemporary Arts Bratislava*

1530

Coffee break

1600

Plenary: round up session, Q&A with panel of presenters

1700

Close of the programme – Departures (for guests still staying
in Pécs: cultural and gastronomy programme and
opportunities to discuss partnerships with other candidates)

Organizers and partners

Zsolnay Heritage Nonprofit Ltd Pécs
Hungarian Ministry of Human Capacities
The City of Pécs
Creative Europe Desk Hungary
European Capital of Culture Programme
http://kodalykozpont.hu/ecoc_ekf_seminar



*
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 April 2017 10:49
To: [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: ECoC Seminar Pecs

Hi [REDACTED]

Further to your recent email, I wish to confirm that there will be three delegates attending the seminar in Pecs. We will be happy to provide an update following this seminar.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]



**Belfast
City Council**



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Cheantar
an tSrátha Báin

Derry Citty & Strabane
Districk Council

Sent via E-mail

[REDACTED], Policy Adviser
First World War Centenary and Cultural Cities
4th Floor,
100 Parliament Street,
London SW1A 2BQ

7th July 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

European Capital of Culture 2023

An opinion is sought from DCMS on the eligibility of the joint bid from Belfast City Council and Derry and Strabane District Council (Belfast Derry) to host the European Capital of Culture 2023.

Belfast Derry have considered the European Capitals of Culture 2020-2033 Guide for Cities preparing to bid; Rules of Procedure – Competition for the 2023 European Capital of Culture title in the UK; and Call for Submission of applications for the Union action 'European Capital of Culture' for the year 2023 in the United Kingdom. Having reviewed this information Belfast Derry requires further clarification on the guidance "the title applies to a city. Cities may involve their surrounding areas if they wish so, but the title is awarded only to the city itself and not to the whole area. Therefore, where a city involves its surrounding area, the application shall be made under the name of the city.

Will a two city bid be considered eligible on the basis that:

- One of the Councils agree to the application signatory and be the lead city for accountability and responsibility;
- The two Councils are producing a joint and integrated cultural strategy; [REDACTED]
- It is one project, which happens to have venues across two cities? [REDACTED]

Belfast Derry has also reviewed the cities that competed for the 2020 title in Ireland and note a precedent has been established for a multiple city bid for the title of European Capital of Culture. For the 2020 title, Waterford City Council lead a joint bid on behalf of two other cities, namely Wexford and Kilkenny under the brand of the Three Sisters. This bid progressed to stage 2 of the competition and was commended for the collaboration across the three cities.

Continued....

Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Derry
C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN

Strabane
C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane BT82 8DY



**Belfast
City Council**



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle Chathair
Dhoire & Choantair
an tSrátha Báin

Derry City & Strabane
District Council

In addition, given the level of financial commitment involved in bidding as well as [redacted] engagement with local citizens can DCMS provide an up to date position on the 2023 designation in the context of BREXIT negotiations? In particular has a formal agreement been reached with the European Commission that the UK city designated as European Capital of Culture 2023 will be accepted by the EU regardless of the outcome of these negotiations?

We look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted signature]

Chief Executive

Yours Sincerely

[redacted signature]

Chief Executive

cc: [redacted] Department for Communities
[redacted] Department of Culture, Media & Sport
[redacted] European Commission

Belfast City Council
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98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN

Strabane
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47 Derry Road
Strabane BT82 8DY

[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 July 2017 09:26
To: [REDACTED] @belfastcity.gov.uk; [REDACTED]
Subject: European Capital of Culture - Panel Meetings

Dear bidding cities,

I just wanted to send you all a quick update re ECoC 2023.

I can now confirm that the shortlisting panel meetings will take place in central London over three days in November.

The dates are Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 November.

Each city will be expected to attend one of the meetings and talk about your bid and then be questioned by the panel.

All panel members will be announced prior to these meetings.

It is impossible to say at this stage what day and slot you will be given, but I will let you know shortly after the bid deadline of 27 October. Given that some of you will want to book overnight accommodation I will try and give you the likely day of your session in advance of this.

In the meantime you may want to note your diaries of these important dates.

Note this is for your information only and should not be shared wider or with the media.

All the competition guidance is on our website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-capital-of-culture-2023-uk-competition>

Kind Regards

[REDACTED] Cultural Cities Team

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 11 August 2017 16:30
To: [Redacted]@culture.gov.uk
Subject: European Capital of Culture 2023
Attachments: [Redacted] - DCMS.pdf

Dear [Redacted]:

Please find attached correspondence from the Chief Executives of Belfast City Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council.

Regards
[Redacted]
Administration Officer

Derry City & Strabane District Council
Legacy Department
98 Strand Road
Derry~Londonderry
BT48 7NN

Tel: (028) 7125 3253 Ext [Redacted]

www.derrystrabane.com



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSraith Bóin
Derry Cille & Strabane
District Council

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 July 2017 15:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk); [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu;
[REDACTED]@communities-ni.gov.uk; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: European Capital of Culture 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

FAO: [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 7 July seeking clarification on the eligibility of a joint bid from Belfast City Council and Derry and Strabane District Council (known as Belfast Derry) to host European Capital of Culture 2023. I have consulted with Sylvain Pasqua at the European Commission and have copied him into this reply.

As you have highlighted, the Call for Submissions published in December specifies that "the title applies to a city. Cities may involve their surrounding areas if they wish so, but the title is awarded only to the city itself and not to the whole area. Therefore, where a city involves its surrounding area, the application shall be made under the name of the city." This specification is the transposition of Article 3(1) and Article 11(4) of Decision 445/2014/EU of the EP and the Council governing the ECOC action 2020-2033.

Our understanding is that it will not therefore possible for Belfast Derry to bid jointly in the manner you propose; instead, one area must take the lead. If successful, the lead city will hold the title of European Capital of Culture and, if eligible, receive the Melina Mercouri prize. However, the city's bid and its proposed programme may be dispersed across a much wider area and indeed this is now common practice. For example, Galway's successful bid incorporated a much wider hinterland, and included also some cooperation with Dublin (<http://galway2020.ie/en/about/galway-2020-bid-book/>).

As you correctly note, the 2020 bid by Waterford City Council was in cooperation with two other cities, Kilkenny and Wexford. However, had the bid been successful, our understanding is the title would have been awarded to Waterford only, under the name "Waterford for the three Sisters 2020". The partner cities would not have been able to present themselves as "Kilkenny 2020", "Wexford 2020" or even as "Three Sisters 2020".

Finally, you asked about Brexit negotiations. Our position has not changed since we launched the competition in 2016 and I refer you to our statement: www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-capital-of-culture-2023-uk-competition

We look forward to receiving your bid by 27 October.

Kind Regards



**Belfast
City Council**



Derry City & Strabane
District Council

Comhairle Chathair
Dholra & Cheantar
an tSraitha Bálain

Derry Cille & Strabane
Districk Council

Sent via E-mail

██████████
Policy Adviser
First World War Centenary and Cultural Cities
Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sports
4th Floor,
100 Parliament Street,
London SW1A 2BQ

11th August 2017

Dear ██████████

European Capital of Culture 2023

Thank you for your response of 20th July concerning our bid to host the UK designation of European Capital of Culture.

From the outset we wish to be unequivocal in our response and to assure you that we intend to fully comply with the rules of the competition as set out in Decision 445/2014/EU. One city will be the named applicant and will act as the candidate city on behalf of the other. This has been established as a precedent during the 2020 competition in Ireland, when the Three Sisters bid, while led by the City of Waterford as candidate city, was built on the recognition that the three cities of Waterford, Kilkenny and Wexford were better together.

We are currently working with our marketing and communications team on the style and format of our brand. The brand will recognise the collaboration between Belfast and Derry and maintain the integrity of our bid. It is our intention that the brand will incorporate both cities and this is in keeping with the precedent of the 2022 Lithuanian bid from the candidate city of Klaipeda and the partner cities of Neringa and Palanga. We hope to share with you the visuals of our proposed brand in the coming weeks.

Continued

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**Belfast
City Council**



**Derry City & Strabane
District Council**
Comhairle Chathair
Dhairs & Cheantar
an tSrátha Bálín
Derry Cille & Strábane
Districc Cooncil

We trust this clarifies our position and we are seeking further reassurance this is compliant with the rules of the competition. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss any aspect of our letter with you and please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely

Chief Executive

Yours Sincerely

Chief Executive

Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Derry
C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN

Strabane
C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane BT82 8DY

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 September 2017 11:41
To: [REDACTED] Belfast City Council [REDACTED]@BelfastCity.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@BelfastCity.gov.uk
Subject: European Capital of Culture 2023

Dear All

Please see email below from [REDACTED] DCMS.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Administration Officer

Derry City & Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry~Londonderry
BT48-7NN

Tel: (028) 7125 3253 Extn 6665
www.derrystrabane.com



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSratha Béin
Derry Ckttle & Strábane
Districca Cooncil



Web: weare2023.eu

#BackOurBid2023

[Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk]
Sent: 12 September 2017 11:26
To: [REDACTED]@Derrystrabane.com>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk>;
[REDACTED]@communities-ni.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu
Subject: Re: European Capital of Culture 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Chief Executives of Belfast City Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council.

Thank you for your letter of 11 August.

As explained in my email of 20 July, information governing the European Capital of Culture 2023 is outlined in Decision No 445/2014/EU and therefore I have consulted with Sylvain Pasqua at the European Commission before responding to your queries.

[REDACTED], who is coordinator for the ECoC action in the Commission's Directorate-General Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, has expressed doubts on whether Derry City & Strabane District may be treated as a surrounding area to Belfast (or vice versa) as required by the competition rules. He has forwarded your query to colleagues in his DG's legal unit and expects to have their feedback next week.

[REDACTED] has considered the examples you offered regarding Waterford and Klaipėda and advise the circumstances are different and not a precedent for your proposed approach. In both cases, cities *from the same area* were working closely together. In the case of Waterford for the Three Sisters, the bid was instrumental in pioneering a new model of culture-led regional partnership underpinned by a regional cultural strategy based on sharing resources and coordinating programming. In the case of Klaipėda, there was a clear bid leader which intended to involve the other two cities from the same Western Region of Lithuania in order to remove administrative boundaries and to make the region one cultural area and one centre for cultural meetings.

If you have any further questions regarding the guidance, then the 'Guide for Cities preparing to Bid' is available on our website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/578287/Guide_for_candidate_cities_for_the_European_Capital_of_Culture.pdf

Kind Regards


Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

[REDACTED]
Cultural Cities Project Team
4th Floor, 100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ
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On 11 August 2017 at 16:30, Jacqueline Parkington <Jacqueline.Parkington@derrystrabane.com> wrote:

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 September 2017 23:31
To: [REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: European Capital of Culture 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

thank you for your correspondence of 12th September 2017 to John Kelpie and Suzanne Wylie. You referenced that [REDACTED] was seeking a legal opinion and we would respectfully request that this is forward as soon as possible given the critical deadlines as we approach submission date of Stage 1.

Sincere thanks

[REDACTED]
Director of Legacy
Derry City & Strabane District Council

[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 September 2017 16:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on ECoC 2023

Dear Bidding Cities

I'm sure you are all very busy working on your ECoC 2023 bid documents. I just wanted to send you an email reminding you of a couple of things.

As you know, bids must be submitted to this email address no later than Friday 27 October. Please aim to email them by midday, and keep it to one single file no greater than 5MB in size. This is important as we need to email them to panel members. As per the 'Call for Submission' bids should not exceed 80 pages in A4 format. The approach adopted for the UK City of Culture competition is standard size margins, 12 pitch font and no less than 1.15 line spacing size, you may wish to follow this approach.

20 paper copies should be posted to me at DCMS, Cultural Cities Team, 4th Floor, 100 Parliament Street, London, SW1A 2BQ. Please can you arrange for these to be delivered by noon on Monday 30 October.

I thought it would also be helpful just to share with you some answers to questions recently received.

Q. Should the financial figures requested in Section 6 be provided in Euros?

A. Yes figures are to be provided in Euros. Candidate cities can however indicate figures in both Euros and Pounds. (DCMS would recommend you do this, and indicate the exchange rate used).

Q. When providing annual income for expenditure estimates for Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 that these should be based on calendar years (1 January to 31 December) and not financial years.

A. Yes indeed, calendar years.

Q. Is DCMS planning to publicise the bids on 27 October?

A. Information will be embargoed until Monday 30 October, at a time to be confirmed, to ensure all bids received. DCMS will then publish the list of cities who have bid. Our press team will be in touch with yours to discuss precise details, however we would appreciate if you are able to work to the same embargo date.

With regards to press/media, it would be helpful if you could please send me name, email and telephone number of your press officer. I will share this with our press office, who will be able to liaise with them later in October.

I trust this is all helpful.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED] Cultural Cities Team

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 October 2017 16:38
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Queries on 80 page limit

Dear Bidding Cities.

A few of you have asked about the 80 page limit, and whether this includes the cover and back pages.

I have now received advice from the Commission who advise that you do not need to take into account the cover and back pages in the 80 page limit for your bids.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED] Cultural Cities Team

----- Forwarded message -----

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Date: 15 September 2017 at 16:46
Subject: Update on ECoC 2023
To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@culture.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@culture.gov.uk)>

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[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 October 2017 09:03
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on communications

Dear Bidding Cities.

A quick update on comms.

Cities are welcome to publicise their bid submissions on October 27. DCMS is not able to support individual cities on the day but we would be grateful for your comms leads to get in touch with Rebecca Evans, in DCMS Press Office (rebecca.evans@culture.gov.uk) who will be able to update cities on future plans in due course.

Also, if you haven't sent me your main comms contact yet, grateful if you can.

Thanks 

[REDACTED] DCMS Cultural Cities Team

[REDACTED]

From: europeancapital2023 <europeancapital2023@culture.gov.uk>
Sent: 25 October 2017 09:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Recent queries on file size and panel members

Dear Bidding Cities,

A couple of queries raised recently, which I'm happy to answer.

File Size: The file size suggested of 5mb is guidance only, based on our experience of the UK City of Culture programme when printing, saving and emailing it to others. It should not be a problem if your doc is slightly larger. The main point being is that it has to be accessible.

Panel Members: The Commission advise that we inform you of the names of the panel members one week prior to shortlisting meetings.

Kind Regards

DCMS Cultural Cities Team