### Cabinet

16 January 2019

2019 Year of Culture; including DCC

Festivals & Events Calendar 2019/20



## **Report of Cabinet**

Ian Thompson, Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services

Councillor Ossie Johnson, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Culture, Leisure and Rural Issues

# Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

# **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to confirm details of the 2019/20 festivals and events programme, and to get agreement for the allocation of funding to the programme. The report also sets out the wider context of the Council's programme within a 'Year of Culture' campaign incorporating partner and community cultural events from across the County.

# **Executive Summary**

- Festivals and events have an important role to play in delivering the corporate approach to culture-led regeneration as they help place and position County Durham positively. Whilst at the same time supporting skills and health by engaging more people in culture and sport, attracting investment and extending engagement in community life and volunteering.
- 2019 sees a year of increased activity with a range of new cultural events, openings and anniversaries. These new activities build on the continued growth in cultural activity both through the County Council and wider partners that has been experienced in recent years. In 2019,

- it is planned to recognise this with a year of activities, festivals, events and anniversaries, in a designated 2019 Year of Culture.
- This report sets out the framework for the Year of Culture and provides details of the Council's contribution through its annual, investment and signature events programme.
- The Year of Culture and the Council's own programme recognises the importance to tourism, economic impact and the benefit to residents. This work aligns with the Durham Tourism Management Plan priorities and is envisaged to generate significant economic benefits for the local economy, whilst at the same time playing a critical role in realising the County's ambitions across a number of priorities by encouraging more people to discover and engage with Durham's culture and heritage.
- Increasing the consumption of culture, arts and heritage tourism experiences by visitors and residents the programme will provide a cultural legacy for the county which can be enjoyed by residents and visitors long after 2019.
- Within both the Council's event programme and the wider Year of Culture there are many events which are free to access, encouraging engagement from all sectors of the community. Many events also have associated programmes to encourage learning and engagement for targeted populations and groups. The overall programme will encompass not only the larger scale events but also ensuring more local, community events, form part of the offer.

#### Recommendations

- 8 Cabinet is recommended to:
  - (a) Endorse the 2019 Year of Culture campaign work and agree promotional work is progressed.
  - (b) Approve the proposed allocation of budget for the 2019/20 Annual Programme and Investment and Development programme of events, noting the decision to enhance DCC funding to this area of work from within service budgets.
  - (c) Approve the proposed changes to the programme.
  - (d) Note the draft forward plan for potential signature events or support requests.

## **Background**

- Over recent years, County Durham has seen continued growth in cultural activity both through the County Council and wider partners. In 2019, we will see the compounding effect of this sustained investment, with a year of activities, festivals, events and anniversaries, in a designated Year of Culture.
- 10 Coordinated by a steering group, with membership from elected members, DCC officers and other key partners, the year will bring together events across the County under an umbrella brand developed by Visit County Durham. The outcome will be to ensure that the economic impact and legacy of the whole programme is maximised.
- The idea of presenting the wider programme from across the County is driven by the large and significant number of cultural events, anniversaries and moments due to take place in 2019. A full list is given at appendix 2 but includes the *addition* of the following highlight events, amongst others, in 2019 from both the Council and partner organisations.
  - (a) Cricket World Cup
  - (b) Seaham Food Festival
  - (c) Tubingen 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kulture Nacht
  - (d) Spanish Gallery Opening
  - (e) Norman Cornish Centenary Exhibitions
  - (f) Apollo Pavilion 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events
  - (g) Faith Gallery Opening
  - (h) Durham Running Festival
- 2019 will also be Lumiere's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and will see a wide and exciting range of exhibitions from across Bowes, Durham Cathedral, Auckland Castle and Ushaw together with a range of favourite Durham annual events including; Miners Gala; Regatta; Kynren; BRASS; Country and Agricultural shows; Locomotion steam events and Durham Book Festival. The expanding programmes at Beamish and Raby Castle will also add to this intense period of activity as a year worthy of celebrating.
- Notwithstanding these headline activities, the Year of Culture will also encompass and engage the wide and interesting events and activities that take place across the county at a community level. Organisers of

these events are being encouraged to join in the campaign and to link their activities into the programme.

- 14 The campaign through the Steering Group aims to:
  - (a) Ensure the economic impacts of the programme are maximised.

    To support the review and development of the programme identifying and prioritising the economic importance and potential of individual content.
  - (b) Inform the programme and its capacity to engage audiences at all levels, embrace digital technologies in its promotion and ensure diversity and enjoyment.
  - (c) Provide an overview of the programme and ensure buy-in from across the County.
  - (d) Consider and promote the legacy implications of the 2019 programme.
  - (e) Ensure appropriate branding and packaging of the programme in order to meet local, regional, national and international audiences.
  - (f) Steer a marketing and communications plan in maximising programme awareness and impact.
  - (g) Inform the allocation of resources to promoting the 2019 programme.
  - (h) Represent the 2019 programme in terms of lobbying and securing support and resource.
- The Steering Group is a time-limited task and finish group set-up by DCC to deliver the above aims and ensure input and connection with all areas of the county. This is reflected through the following governance and membership arrangements:
  - (a) Chair: The Group will be chaired by Cllr Tracie Smith, Cabinet Support to the Cultural Portfolio Holder.
  - (b) Membership: The Steering Group will consist of members who are able to represent the interests of, and connect with, the wider community and key partners. The Group will be made up of the following core members but will retain flexibility in its approach through the addition of additional members at the discretion of the Chair as work develops:

- i. A representative County Councillor from each of the 14 Area Action Partnerships.
- ii. A representative from the County's Safety Advisory Group.
- iii. A representative from the County Durham Cultural Partnership.
- iv. A representative from the Town and Parish Council Group.
- v. The Head of Culture and Sport and/or their representatives as appropriate.
- vi. The Managing Director of Visit County Durham or their representatives as appropriate.
- vii. The Portfolio Holders for Culture and Economy as necessary.
- Progress: The Steering Group is in place and has met several times to plan the support and infrastructure to the campaign. A wide range of delivery partners have been engaged and invited to get involved. Visit County Durham (VCD) are supporting through the development of marketing and communications plans in liaison with the Council's Marketing and Communications Team. These are now well advanced and campaign collateral has been developed as part of the wider Place of Light campaign (example given at Appendix 3).
- 17 Work is now progressing to create special offers linked to key events and to encourage large and small events to link to the brand through #Durham19. All organisations/events can now sign-up to receive regular updates and VCD have undertaken events to encourage this. Promotional tools which are also in development include an online #Durham19 toolkit and events submission forms. These tools will be instrumental in developing a wider listing of community events.
- Details of both a regional and national launch event are currently being developed and details should be available soon.
- 19 Within this campaign Durham County Council will need to agree and confirm its own contribution to the year through its festivals and events programme. The following sections set this out.

#### DCC Calendar of Festivals and Events 2019/20

- The DCC festivals and events programme has three elements which ensure that a balanced programme exists, whilst also exploring new opportunities. The three elements are as follows:
- 21 <u>The Annual Programme</u> this programme element endeavours to represent a core offer which residents and visitors are familiar with. The list is gradually refreshed and developed over time to modernise or meet new priorities.

- 22 The Investment and Development Programme this programme element enables the authority to support events by direct delivery or with funding, in order to research opportunities, develop infrastructure and/or build resilience of new events. This support enables new ideas to flourish and encourages other partners to take the lead in culture-led regeneration.
- Signature Events this programme element enables the authority to deliver very large scale events, which normally have high risks and costs, and so need to demonstrate significant beneficial impact for County Durham. These signature events/festivals are of a scale that funding is unachievable from ongoing revenue resources, and for which corporate funding from outside cash limits will be requested, should the Council be minded to support an event/festival. Examples of such events include Lumiere and most recently the First World War commemoration events.
- In addition to this framework of corporate events (largely driven by economic impact), there are also a great number of smaller scale, one-off or ad-hoc events throughout the year, which increasingly demand the support of the Festivals & Events team. Some of these are Culture and Sport led, whilst others are demand-led from both internal departments and wider community partners.
- 25 For 2018/19, the DCC revenue events budget for the Annual programme and Investment and Development programme was £405,000. This was bolstered by additional grants and matched funding.
- Of note, is that the team coordinates three key Arts Council England funded festivals (BRASS, Durham Book Festival and Lumiere). The authority receives funding for these events as a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) to create a cultural festivals offer in Durham. The authority utilises some of its festivals revenue funding to match this Arts Council England funding for the annual BRASS and Book Festivals, whilst Lumiere is classified as a biennial signature event, which has to date been matched by a signature funding request to the Council.
- The current round of NPO funding runs for four years, meaning these three key festivals will now receive ACE support until March 2022.
- In line with this funding, in July 2018, DCC's Cabinet agreed support for Lumiere for the 2019 and 2021 iterations.
- To allow earlier date setting and development to occur, it was previously agreed that the events in the annual programme are assumed to have in principle support each year, without the need for formal approval. This doesn't however negate the need for evaluation and financial

- reconciliation to take place each year, to confirm each events' continued place in the programme.
- This enables successful events to be planned with confidence in advance, but equally, enables advance warnings to remove elements of the programme where events have struggled to meet their outcomes, and offers the opportunity for advance communications and reputational planning.
- 31 <u>Festivals & Events Evaluation</u>: In order to plan the calendar each year, it is important to review the previous year's success and areas for improvement. To this end, there is a robust evaluation model in place for the key events, which enables a range of indicators to be consistently applied across all events. This enables results to inform future decisions and planning. These evaluations use common performance measures to shape both artistic, educational and audience development objectives.
- The key events in the Annual Programme also have a three tiered evaluation consisting of a formal evaluation (as detailed above); an internal debrief to capture problems and operational issues; and a budget review on how each event or festival performed against financial targets.
- The approach to evaluation needs to be proportionate to the scale of the event and our investment to ensure we can work within budgets. The cost of independent evaluation can be expensive and in Appendix 2 we have identified across the table how we foresee the increased evaluation needs being covered.
- The attached Appendix 4 illustrates the proposed Annual Calendar of Events and Appendix 5 illustrates the proposed Investment and Development calendar for 2019/20.
- Overall, for 2019/20, the proposal is for the level of financial support for the Annual Programme to remain the same, with the Investment & Development programme seeing an increase in costs. The split of this increased investment is as follows:
  - (a) The Annual Calendar of events totals £369,000 including all costs for evaluation.
  - (b) The Investment and Development fund increases by £26,500 to £62,500 including all evaluation costs. This increase will be covered from within service budgets.

#### **Annual Calendar**

- In principle the following events remain unchanged: Bishop Auckland Food Festival, the Tour Series Cycling, Durham Regatta, Tour of the Reservoir, the Miners Gala, BRASS, IncludFEST, Durham Book Festival and TakeOff Festival (subject to confirmation).
- A number of changes have been proposed for the remaining events in the programme, as detailed below. It should also be noted that the annual events involves a strong commitment of staff capacity and skills, as well as direct cash resource and marketing capacity, and alternative ways of working to maximise value will continue to be explored.

## **Proposed Annual Programme Changes**

### **Events Requiring Further Scrutiny**

Funding for the **Tour of the Reservoir** was increased in 2018, with the caveat that the event was required to evidence the economic impact to Durham for this additional commitment. Funding is proposed at the same level for 2019, subject to this report being received.

### Investment & Development Programme

- This area of the events calendar is always competitive, as partners request support for the establishment and development of new events. With limited funds, the same events cannot be supported every year, as that would prevent opportunity and growth of wider ideas.
- In response to requests for support, we are proposing to support the following events in 2019/20 which help both geographical spread and reach:
- Northern Writes: Defiant Voices a festival and cultural education programme, inspired by the work of Tommy Armstrong, the Tanfield pitmen poet who was a defiant voice, speaking out against poverty and inequality. The project gives local people the opportunity to learn about their cultural legacy, participate in high-quality music, poetry and writing workshops, using Armstrong's work to open up a better understanding of the past and to inspire new defiant voices from the young people who live in and around Stanley's ex-mining communities.
- A partnership with the Tommy Armstrong Society, Beamish Museum, Go North East, Durham University and Stanley AAP, this two year cultural education programme, will culminate in a festival weekend in 2019/20.

- Last year, it was agreed to support the event with £16,000, payable over a two year period. Following £6000 of support from the 2018/19 budget, a second payment of £10,000 will come from this year's fund.
- Tübingen 50th Anniversary Celebrations the year 2019 will see the 50th anniversary of Durham's twinning with the German city of Tübingen. A year-round programme of cultural activities will celebrate this milestone.
- The year's events will see a number of cultural exchanges between the two cities, encompassing visual arts, performing arts, music and sport to celebrate 50 years of partnership between the cities. Funds are needed to cover the costs of the programme and to send selected Durham based artists to Germany.
- 46 **Norman Cornish** next year will be the 100th anniversary of the Spennymoor artist's birth and a range of exhibitions and activities are planned to mark the centenary.
- A number of partners are involved in the programme, including DCC, Bowes Museum and Durham University, and funds are required to ensure the anniversary is fitting for this important artist.
- Seaham Food Festival it is proposed to build on the success of Bishop Auckland Food Festival by creating a new sister event in Seaham. This will enable us to use the successful model we have developed to bring benefits to another part of the County and use economies of scale to bring financial benefits.
- The plan is to host a smaller summer/seaside-focussed event on Seaham seafront as a pilot event, with the hope of developing the event into a significant part of the annual calendar over the coming years.
- Last year, it was agreed to support the event with £37,500, payable in decreasing amounts over a three year period, to help the event become revenue generating. Following £15,000 of development money from the 2018/19 budget, a second payment of £12,500 will come from this year's fund; with £10,000 in 2020/21.
- Durham Vocal Festival is a festival of choral music which builds on Durham's musical tradition. The Investment & Development fund has supported this event with £5000 per year for two years and so, as the event becomes more established, this will be the final year of funding.

# Removal of Investment & Development Events

The competitive nature of this funding stream means that some events may not proposer as well as others and not all events can be supported

- every year. Conversely, some events prove successful and become self-sustaining, removing the need for further funding.
- The inaugural **Durham Adventure Festival** took place in April 2018, as a three-day pilot event, run in partnership between DCC and Kendal Mountain Festival. The programme of events celebrating adventure sports and outdoor activities proved successful in its initial year, meaning that the £10,000 from the Investment & Development fund in 2018 will no longer be required as it is felt that the event can attract sponsorship and other forms of funding to make the event self-sustaining.

## **Signature Events Programme**

A forward plan of emerging potential Signature Events has been attached in Appendix 6 in order to highlight potential corporate funding requests for 2019-2022. Reports will be brought on a case by case basis for these requests.

### Conclusion

- 55 The above outlines the Annual Programme and Investment & Development programme of festivals and events for 2019/20, and proposes some suggested amendments and budget reallocation.
- The costs associated with delivering both the Annual Programme and the Investment & Development programme is an increase on 2018/19 of £26,500. This increase is due to the costs of the two key anniversary programmes for 2019 (Cornish and Tübingen). This amount will be sourced from within service budgets.
- An emerging forward plan for signature event proposals has also been included which will rely upon separate reports and funding requests.

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# **Appendix 1: Implications**

# **Legal Implications**

None.

#### **Finance**

An additional £26,500 is required to support the enhanced programme which will be addressed as part of the Culture & Sport budget cycle for 2019/20. All other changes will take place within existing resources with the exception of new requests for signature events which may stem from this report approval.

### Consultation

None.

# **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

## **Human Rights**

None.

#### **Crime and Disorder**

None.

# **Staffing**

None.

#### **Accommodation**

None.

#### Risk

Failure to consider these proposals will result in delayed planning for the 2019/20 programme of events, with potential for decreased revenue and reputational damage.

#### **Procurement**

None.

# Appendix 2: 2019 Year of Culture Major Events and Activities

# Year of Culture 2019

	What	Who
Jan	St Cuthbert's Drama Society: Murder in the Cathedral Christingle Durham Vocal Festival	Durham Cathedral Durham Cathedral DCC
Feb	Fire and Ice Festival	Durham BID
Mar	St Cuthberts Day Festival	Durham Cathedral
Apr	Feasting and Fasting: the Great Kitchen Bishop Auckland Food Festival Durham Adventure Festival	Durham Cathedral DCC DCC
May	Festival of Steam Reach for the Beach Seaham Tour Series Cycling Gala Production - Title TBC	Locomotion Heritage Coast DCC DCC
Jun	Cricket World Cup Opens Vikings Open Treasure exhibition Classic Cars in the Park Durham Regatta Kynren Opens (Jun-Sept)	DCCC Durham Cathedral Raby Castle DARC Eleven Arches
July	Seaham Food Festival Outdoor Theatre in the Gardens BRASS The Miners' Gala Tour of the Reservoir Cycling Durham Running Festival IncludFEST Turbening 50th Anniversary Kulture Nacht	DCC Raby Castle DCC DMA DCC DCC DCC DCC
Aug	Classic Cars in the Park Outdoor Theatre in the Gardens Peterlee Food Festival	Raby Castle Raby Castle Peterlee TC
Sep	Spanish Gallery Opening Mapping the World Open Treasure Autumn Steam Gala	Auckland Project Durham Cathedral Locomotion

Oct Durham Book Festival

North Pennines Stargazing Festival AONB
Gala Production - Title TBC DCC

Norman Cornish Centenary Exhibitions DCC/AP/DU

DCC

**Durham City** 

Nov Lumiere DCC

Northern Writes: Defiant Voices

Apollo Pavilion 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events DCC/APT

Faith Gallery Opening

Gala Pantomime Opens

Auckland Project
DCC

**Dec** Durham Christmas Festival

Christmas Market Raby Castle
Christmas Market Bowes Museum

## **DETAILS STILL TO BE CONFIRMED**

Wider Community Listings Programme

Bowes Exhibition Programme

Palace Green Exhibition Programme

**Beamish Events** 

Ushaw College Events

2015 Build-up events

**Oriental Museum Events** 

Gala Gallery Programme

Heritage Open Days

Cathedral Concert Programme

Redhills Events

Killhope Events

**DLI Collection Exhibitions and Events** 

**Durham Archive Events** 

**DU Musicon Programme** 

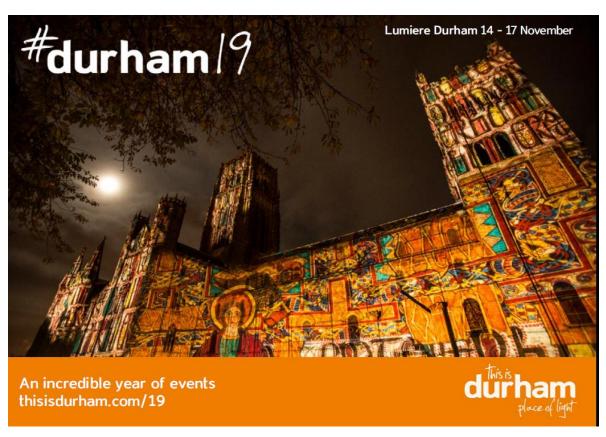
Music Collectives Programme

Launderette Sessions

Empty Shops Programme

**DU Music Societies event** 

# **Appendix 3: 2019 Year of Culture Marketing Examples**





# Appendix 4: Annual Programme

	Event	Month	Organiser	Culture &Sport Cost	Other DCC or External Funds	Total	Comments
	Bishop Auckland Food Festival	April	DCC	£55,000	c£80,000	£135,000	This two-day event attracts around 30,000 people, and boosts the local economy. A new programming partnership for 2018 proved very successful, and there are as such, there are plans to continue to develop the event further. There will be a full independent evaluation commissioned by DCC for this festival included in this funding.
	Tour Series Cycling	May	Sweetspot	£40,000	£200,000	£240,000	A televised closed-circuit cycle race which takes place in Durham City as part of a ten city tour of the UK. The event attracts teams of elite professional cyclists and is screened on ITV4. The cost for this event includes an independent evaluation, organised by Sweetspot, including DCC instructed questions.
	Durham Regatta	June	Regatta Committee	£2,000	c£20,000	£22,000	One of the longest running sporting events in the county, dating back to 1834, DCC supports the event by providing some welfare facilities and assistance. There is no DCC evaluation required for this event.

Cycling -Tour of the Reservoir	July	Tyne Valley Cycle Club	£10,000	c£40,000	£50,000	Part of the British Cycling calendar, the race takes place on the roads around Derwent Water, half in County Durham and half in Northumberland. This DCC funding requires an economic evaluation to be provided by the event provider.
Miners' Gala	July	DMA	£10,000	f100,000+	f110,000+	Organised by the Durham Miners Association (DMA) with support from the Culture & Sport team, this is one of the County's largest events and also one of its longest running. There is no DCC evaluation required for this event.
BRASS	July	DCC	£115,000	c£245,000	£360,000	Building on Durham's strength in brass-playing, the festival features international artists, new collaborations and contemporary brass playing; plus an extensive outreach and education programme across the County. This is one of DCC's festivals supported by significant Arts Council England funding. There will be a full independent evaluation commissioned by DCC for this festival, included in this funding.
Durham City Run (10K/5K)	July	Events of the North	£25,000	Not known	Not known	A Durham City-based 5K and 10K mid-week Summer road run, which encourages more people into being active, and boosts mid-week visitors to the City. The evaluation for this event will be requested from the event provider, and include both economic and social indicators.
IncludFEST	September	TIN Arts	£10,000	Not known	Not known	An inclusive outdoor arts festival created and run by TIN Arts, which aims to widen access to the arts for disabled children, young people and their families. The evaluation for this event will be requested from the events provider and include both economic and social indicators.

Durham Book Festival	October	DCC/NWN	£78,000	c£260,000	£335,000	An annual celebration of the written and spoken word, the event is growing in stature and is increasingly attracting national attention. New Writing North has a contract to produce the festival. The event cost includes funds for an independent evaluation to be completed, and paid for by New Writing North. Includes a £3000 contribution for a festival intern.
TakeOff Festival	October	Theatre Hullabaloo	£16,000	c£95,000	£111,000	A festival of theatre for children and young people attracting theatre companies from across the world to perform in the region. An additional £7,000 is allocated from Marketing budgets towards festival marketing costs. The evaluation for this event will be requested from the event provider, and include both economic and social indicators.
Evaluation		£8,000			Annual comparison report to analyse evaluation across the independently evaluated events, and particularly the NPO funded events.	
Total			£369,000		I	

# Appendix 5: Investment & Development Programme

Event	Month	Organiser	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Comments
Seaham Food Festival	June	DCC		£12,500	£10,000	Development of a sister event to the more established Bishop Auckland Food Festival. Three year funding required to grow and develop the event to become more self-sustaining. An initial evaluation will be completed to support future work, but not independent due to scale and cost.
Northern Writes: Defiant Voices	Year-round	The Forge		£10,000		A festival and cultural education programme, inspired by the work of the Tanfield pitmen poet who was a defiant voice, speaking out against poverty and inequality, culminating in a festival weekend in 2020. A partnership with the Tommy Armstrong Society, Beamish Museum, Go North East, Durham University, Stanley AAP. An evaluation will be requested from the event organiser, with both economic and social impacts being considered.
Tübingen - 50th Anniversary Celebrations	Year-round	DCC		£15,000		A year-round programme of cultural activities to celebrate Durham's twinning with the German city of Tübingen.

Norman Cornish - 100th Anniversary	Year-round	DCC & Partners	£20,000	
Durham Vocal Festival 2018	January	Durham Choral Society & Music Service	£5,000	Building on the successful event in January 2018, funding is sought to help develop this event into a key festival of choral music, which builds on Durham's musical tradition. An evaluation of the event will be requested from the event organiser.
Total	I	1	£62,500	Evaluation is required from the organisations, proportionate to the investment offered by DCC.

# Appendix 6: Signature Events

Event	Organiser	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Comments
Lumiere	DCC / Artichoke				Bi-annual event commissioned by DCC and produced by Artichoke. This is an Arts Council NPO part funded event and approvals for the 2019 and 2021 events have been confirmed.
Gospels Return	Durham Cathedral				Durham University themed exhibition and events with opportunities to collaborate. Initial support agreed, and wider approvals being sought.
Tour de Yorkshire	DCC/Go Yorkshire				Opportunities to host the start of one of the days of the Tour de Yorkshire from Teesdale. This brings worldwide TV coverage, visitor and spectator opportunities.
Velo North	CSM Sport & Entertainment				An opportunity to host a mass participation cycle ride across the County in Summer 2019.
Stockton & Darlington 2025 Bi- Centenary	DCC & wider partners				There is currently an emerging partnership between Stockton, Darlington and Durham to celebrate the 200 year anniversary of the railway. This includes opportunities to seek World Heritage status and wider festival opportunities. Initial seed funding is required to support the programme development.