

Strabane Town of Culture Programming Group

Expression of Interest — Bid Development

About the Group

We are looking for people to help shape the programme proposal for Strabane's Town of Culture bid. The Programming Group will lead the curation of the proposed programme by reviewing submissions, identifying themes and gaps, and agreeing the recommended mix of ideas. The programme should reflect Strabane, support the theme of **hope** and meet the aims of the Town of Culture programme. Council officers will facilitate the process, provide relevant information and advice, and support practical and feasibility considerations.

Who Should Get Involved?

A good mix of people who know Strabane and have an interest in its future is what we need. This may include people involved in culture and creativity, community and youth, sport, heritage, tourism, education, business or civic life, as well as others with relevant experience or strong local connections.

You do not need previous committee experience or a formal role. We are looking for people who are open to different views and willing to contribute. Some people may be invited directly to help ensure the group includes a broad mix of local knowledge, connections and perspectives.

What Will You Do?

The group will attend an online introductory session followed by four meetings to consider the ideas received and agree a final recommended programme proposal for the bid. Members will use their collective knowledge and judgement to identify themes, connections and gaps and to determine the preferred mix of ideas. Council officers will facilitate discussions, provide information and advice, and help the group consider deliverability, resources and bid requirements. The introductory session will last one hour, and the four programming meetings will last about 90 minutes. All sessions will begin at 6pm. The venue is to be confirmed. Members may also be asked to comment between meetings. If Strabane is shortlisted, some members may be invited to support the panel visit and final presentation in early 2027.

- Thursday 15 October 2026 at 6pm — online introductory meeting via Microsoft Teams (1 hour)
- Wednesday 21 October 2026 at 6pm — venue to be confirmed
- Tuesday 27 October 2026 at 6pm — venue to be confirmed
- Monday 2 November 2026 at 6pm — venue to be confirmed
- Monday 9 November 2026 at 6pm — venue to be confirmed

Applicant Details

Name	
Organisation or group (if applicable)	
Area or community	
Email	
Telephone	

Your Connections

Tick all areas in which you have relevant knowledge, experience or connections:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Arts & Creativity | ☐ Community & Voluntary Activity |
| ☐ Heritage & History | ☐ Youth |
| ☐ Education | ☐ Business & Enterprise |
| ☐ Tourism & Hospitality | ☐ Sport & Wellbeing |
| ☐ Irish Language | ☐ Ulster Scots |
| ☐ Natural Environment & Place | ☐ Pan Disability |
| ☐ Age Friendly | ☐ Other (please specify) |

If you selected Other, please provide details:

About You

1. What would you bring?

Tell us briefly about your connection to Strabane and the knowledge, experience, ideas or local contacts you could bring. **Maximum 150 words.**

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2. Why would you like to take part?

Tell us briefly why you would like to be involved and how you could help the group consider ideas and agree a strong programme for Strabane. **Maximum 150 words.**

3. Availability

☐ I can attend the online introductory session on Thursday 15 October and the four meetings on Wednesday 21 October, Tuesday 27 October, Monday 2 November and Monday 9 November 2026 at 6pm.

Meetings you cannot attend or any access requirements:

Confirmation

By returning this form, I confirm that the information provided is accurate. I will declare any connection to an idea being considered. I understand that membership of the group does not guarantee that an idea will be included in the bid or receive funding.

Return this completed form to: colin.coyle@derrystrabane.com

Closing date: 12 noon on Monday 12 October 2026